

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

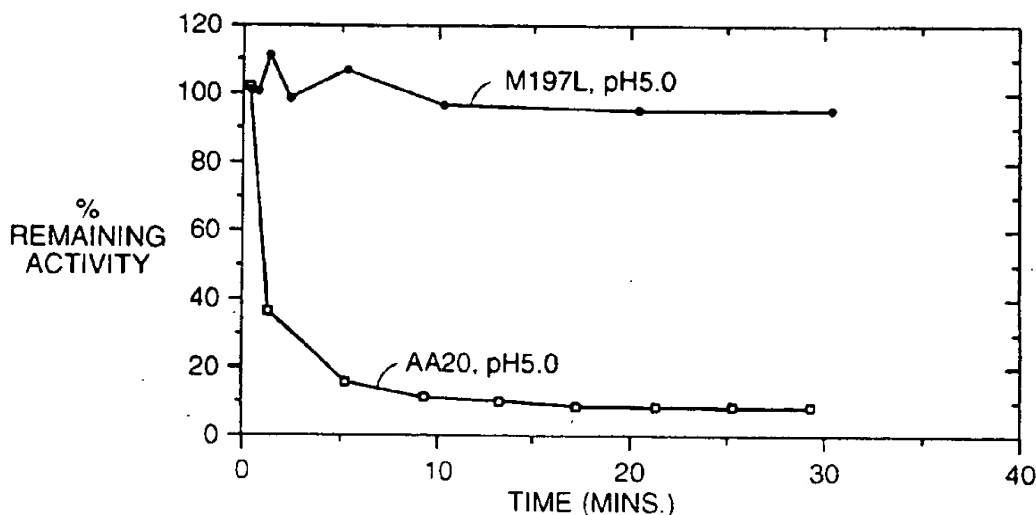
(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ : C12N 9/28, 15/56, C11D 3/386	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 94/18314 (43) International Publication Date: 18 August 1994 (18.08.94)
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US94/01553

(22) International Filing Date: 10 February 1994 (10.02.94)

(30) Priority Data:
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CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, GB, HU, JP, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LU,
LV, MG, MN, MW, NL, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD,
SE, SK, UA, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE,
DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI
patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE,
SN, TD, TG).**Published***With international search report.**Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of
amendments.*

(54) Title: OXIDATIVELY STABLE ALPHA-AMYLASE



(57) Abstract

Novel alpha-amylase mutants derived from the DNA sequences of naturally occurring or recombinant alpha-amylases are disclosed. The mutant alpha-amylases, in general, are obtained by *in vitro* modifications of a precursor DNA sequence encoding the naturally occurring or recombinant alpha-amylase to generate the substitution (replacement) or deletion of one or more oxidizable amino acid residues in the amino acid sequence of a precursor alpha-amylase. Such mutant alpha-amylases have altered oxidative stability and/or altered pH performance profiles and/or altered thermal stability as compared to the precursor. Also disclosed are detergent and starch liquefaction compositions comprising the mutant amylases, as well as methods of using the mutant amylases.

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OXIDATIVELY STABLE ALPHA-AMYLASE

Related Applications

This application is a continuation-in-part of USSN 08/016,395 filed February 11, 1993.

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to novel alpha-amylase mutants having an amino acid sequence not found in nature, such mutants having an amino acid sequence wherein one or more amino acid residue(s) of a precursor alpha-amylase, specifically any oxidizable amino acid, have been substituted with a different amino acid. The mutant enzymes of the present invention exhibit altered stability/activity profiles including but not limited to altered oxidative stability, altered pH performance profile, altered specific activity and/or altered thermostability.

Background of the Invention

Alpha-amylases (alpha-1,4-glucan-4-glucanohydrolase, EC3.2.1.1) hydrolyze internal alpha-1,4-glucosidic linkages in starch largely at random, to produce smaller molecular weight malto-dextrins. Alpha-amylases are of considerable commercial value, being used in the initial stages (liquefaction) of starch processing; in alcohol production; as cleaning agents in detergent matrices; and in the textile industry for starch desizing. Alpha-amylases are produced by a wide variety of microorganisms including *Bacillus* and *Aspergillus*, with most commercial amylases being produced from bacterial sources such as *B. licheniformis*, *B. amyloliquefaciens*, *B. subtilis*, or *B. stearothermophilus*. In

recent years the preferred enzymes in commercial use have been those from *B. licheniformis* because of their heat stability and performance, at least at neutral and mildly alkaline pH's.

Previously there have been studies using recombinant DNA techniques to explore which residues are important for the catalytic activity of amylases and/or to explore the effect of modifying certain amino acids within the active site of various amylases (Vihinen, M. et al. (1990) J. Biochem. 107:267-272; Holm, L. et al. (1990) Protein Engineering 3:181-191; Takase, K. et al. (1992) Biochemica et Biophysica Acta, 1120:281-288; Matsui, I. et al. (1992) Febs Letters Vol. 310, No. 3, pp. 216-218); which residues are important for thermal stability (Suzuki, Y. et al. (1989) J. Biol. Chem. 264:18933-18938); and one group has used such methods to introduce mutations at various histidine residues in a *B. licheniformis* amylase, the rationale for making substitutions at histidine residues was that *B. licheniformis* amylase (known to be thermostable) when compared to other similar *Bacillus* amylases, has an excess of histidines and, therefore, it was suggested that replacing a histidine could affect the thermostability of the enzyme (Declerck, N. et al. (1990) J. Biol. Chem. 265:15481-15488; FR 2 665 178-A1; Joyet, P. et al. (1992) Bio/Technology 10:1579-1583).

It has been found that alpha-amylase is inactivated by hydrogen peroxide and other oxidants at pH's between 4 and 10.5 as described in the examples herein.

Commercially, alpha-amylase enzymes can be used under dramatically different conditions such as both high and low pH conditions, depending on the commercial application. For example, alpha-amylases may be used in the liquefaction of starch, a process preferably performed at a low pH (pH < 5.5). On the other hand, amylases may be used in commercial dish care or laundry detergents, which often contain

oxidants such as bleach or peracids, and which are used in much more alkaline conditions.

In order to alter the stability or activity profile of amylase enzymes under varying conditions, it has been found that selective replacement, substitution or deletion of oxidizable amino acids, such as a methionine, tryptophan, tyrosine, histidine or cysteine, results in an altered profile of the variant enzyme as compared to its precursor. Because currently commercially available amylases are not acceptable (stable) under various conditions, there is a need for an amylase having an altered stability and/or activity profile. This altered stability (oxidative, thermal or pH performance profile) can be achieved while maintaining adequate enzymatic activity, as compared to the wild-type or precursor enzyme. The characteristic affected by introducing such mutations may be a change in oxidative stability while maintaining thermal stability or *vice versa*. Additionally, the substitution of different amino acids for an oxidizable amino acids in the alpha-amylase precursor sequence or the deletion of one or more oxidizable amino acid(s) may result in altered enzymatic activity at a pH other than that which is considered optimal for the precursor alpha-amylase. In other words, the mutant enzymes of the present invention may also have altered pH performance profiles, which may be due to the enhanced oxidative stability of the enzyme.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention relates to novel alpha-amylase mutants that are the expression product of a mutated DNA sequence encoding an alpha-amylase, the mutated DNA sequence being derived from a precursor alpha-amylase by the deletion or substitution (replacement) of one or more oxidizable amino acid. In one preferred embodiment of

the present invention the mutant result from substituting a different amino acid for one or more methionine residue(s) in the precursor alpha-amylase. In another embodiment of the present invention the mutants comprise a substitution of one or more tryptophan residue alone or in combination with the substitution of one or more methionine residue in the precursor alpha-amylase. Such mutant alpha-amylases, in general, are obtained by *in vitro* modification of a precursor DNA sequence encoding a naturally occurring or recombinant alpha-amylase to encode the substitution or deletion of one or more amino acid residues in a precursor amino acid sequence.

Preferably the substitution or deletion of one or more amino acid in the amino acid sequence is due to the replacement or deletion of one or more methionine, tryptophan, cysteine, histidine or tyrosine residues in such sequence, most preferably the residue which is changed is a methionine residue. The oxidizable amino acid residues may be replaced by any of the other 20 naturally occurring amino acids. If the desired effect is to alter the oxidative stability of the precursor, the amino acid residue may be substituted with a non-oxidizable amino acid (such as alanine, arginine, asparagine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, glutamine, glycine, isoleucine, leucine, lysine, phenylalanine, proline, serine, threonine, or valine) or another oxidizable amino acid (such as cysteine, methionine, tryptophan, tyrosine or histidine, listed in order of most easily oxidizable to less readily oxidizable). Likewise, if the desired effect is to alter thermostability, any of the other 20 naturally occurring amino acids may be substituted (i.e., cysteine may be substituted for methionine).

Preferred mutants comprise the substitution of a methionine residue equivalent to any of the methionine residues found in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (+8, +15, +197, +256, +304, +366 and +438). Most preferably the methionine to be replaced is a

methionine at a position equivalent to position +197 or +15 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase. Preferred substitute amino acids to replace the methionine at position +197 are alanine (A), isoleucine (I), threonine (T) or cysteine (C). The preferred substitute amino acids at position +15 are leucine (L), threonine (T), asparagine (N), aspartate (D), serine (S), valine (V) and isoleucine (I), although other substitute amino acids not specified above may be useful. Two specifically preferred mutants of the present invention are M197T and M15L.

Another embodiment of this invention relates to mutants comprising the substitution of a tryptophan residue equivalent to any of the tryptophan residues found in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (see Fig. 2). Preferably the tryptophan to be replaced is at a position equivalent to +138 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase. A mutation (substitution) at a tryptophan residue may be made alone or in combination with mutations at other oxidizable amino acid residues. Specifically, it may be advantageous to modify by substitution at least one tryptophan in combination with at least one methionine (for example, the double mutant +138/+197).

The alpha-amylase mutants of the present invention, in general, exhibit altered oxidative stability in the presence of hydrogen peroxide and other oxidants such as bleach or peracids, or, more specific, milder oxidants such as chloramine-T. Mutant enzymes having enhanced oxidative stability will be useful in extending the shelf life and bleach, perborate, percarbonate or peracid compatibility of amylases used in cleaning products. Similarly, reduced oxidative stability may be useful in industrial processes that require the rapid and efficient quenching of enzymatic activity. The mutant enzymes of the present invention may also demonstrate a broadened pH performance profile whereby mutants such as M15L show stability for low pH starch

liquefaction and mutants such as M197T show stability at high pH cleaning product conditions. The mutants of the present invention may also have altered thermal stability whereby the mutant may have enhanced stability at either high or low temperatures. It is understood that any change (increase or decrease) in the mutant's enzymatic characteristic(s), as compared to its precursor, may be beneficial depending on the desired end use of the mutant alpha-amylase.

In addition to starch processing and cleaning applications, variant amylases of the present invention may be used in any application in which known amylases are used, for example, variant amylases can be used in textile processing, food processing, etc. Specifically, it is contemplated that a variant enzyme such as M197C, which is easily inactivated by oxidation, would be useful in a process where it is desirable to completely remove amylase activity at the end of the process, for example, in frozen food processing applications.

The preferred alpha-amylase mutants of the present invention are derived from a *Bacillus* strain such as *B. licheniformis*, *B. amyloliquefaciens*, and *B. stearothermophilus*, and most preferably from *Bacillus licheniformis*.

In another aspect of the present invention there is provided a novel form of the alpha-amylase normally produced by *B. licheniformis*. This novel form, designated as the A4 form, has an additional four alanine residues at the N-terminus of the secreted amylase. (Fig. 4b.) Derivatives or mutants of the A4 form of alpha-amylase are encompassed within the present invention. By derivatives or mutants of the A4 form, it is meant that the present invention comprises the A4 form alpha-amylase containing one or more additional mutations such as, for example, mutation (substitution, replacement or

deletion) of one or more oxidizable amino acid(s).

In a composition embodiment of the present invention there are provided detergent compositions, liquid, gel or granular, comprising the alpha-amylase mutants described herein. Particularly preferred are detergent compositions comprising a +197 position mutant either alone or in combination with other enzymes such as endoglycosidases, cellulases, proteases, lipases or other amylase enzymes. Additionally, it is contemplated that the compositions of the present invention may include an alpha-amylase mutant having more than one site-specific mutation.

In yet another composition embodiment of the present invention there are provided compositions useful in starch processing and particularly starch liquefaction. The starch liquefaction compositions of the present invention preferably comprise an alpha-amylase mutant having a substitution or deletion at position M15. Additionally, it is contemplated that such compositions may comprise additional components as known to those skilled in the art, including, for example, antioxidants, calcium, ions, etc.

In a process aspect of the present invention there are provided methods for liquefying starch, and particularly granular starch slurries, from either a wet or dry milled process. Generally, in the first step of the starch degradation process, the starch slurry is gelatinized by heating at a relatively high temperature (up to about 110°C). After the starch slurry is gelatinized it is liquefied and dextrinized using an alpha-amylase. The conditions for such liquefaction are described in commonly assigned US patent applications 07/785,624 and 07/785,623 and US Patent 5,180,669, the disclosure of which are incorporated herein by reference. The present method for liquefying starch comprises adding to a starch slurry an effective amount of an alpha-amylase of the

present invention, alone or in combination with additional excipients such as an antioxidant, and reacting the slurry for an appropriate time and temperature to liquefy the starch.

A further aspect of the present invention comprises the DNA encoding the mutant alpha-amylases of the present invention (including A4 form and mutants thereof) and expression vectors encoding the DNA as well as host cells transformed with such expression vectors.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 shows the DNA sequence of the gene for alpha-amylase from *B. licheniformis* (NCIB8061), Seq ID No 31, and deduced translation product as described in Gray, G. et al. (1986) J. Bacter. 166:635-643.

Fig. 2 shows the amino acid sequence of the mature alpha-amylase enzyme from *B. licheniformis* (NCIB8061), Seq ID No 32.

Fig. 3 shows an alignment of primary structures of *Bacillus* alpha-amylases. The *B. licheniformis* amylase (Am-Lich), Seq ID No 33, is described by Gray, G. et al. (1986) J. Bact. 166:635-643; the *B. amyloliquefaciens* amylase (Am-Amylo), Seq ID No 34, is described by Takkinen, K. et al. (1983) J. Biol. Chem. 258:1007-1013; and the *B. stearothermophilus* (Am-Stearo), Seq ID No 35, is described by Ihara, H. et al. (1985) J. Biochem. 98:95-103.

Fig. 4a shows the amino acid sequence of the mature alpha-amylase variant M197T, Seq ID No 36.

Fig. 4b shows the amino acid sequence of the A4 form of alpha-amylase from *B. licheniformis* NCIB8061, Seq ID No 37. Numbering is from the N-terminus, starting with the four additional alanines.

Fig. 5 shows plasmid pA4BL wherein BLAA refers to *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase gene, PstI to SstI; Amp^R refers to the ampicillin-resistant gene from pBR322; and CAT refers to the Chloramphenicol-resistant gene from pC194.

Fig. 6 shows the signal sequence-mature protein junctions for *B. licheniformis* (Seq ID No 38), *B. subtilis* (Seq ID No 39), *B. licheniformis* in pA4BL (Seq ID No 40) and *B. licheniformis* in pBLapr (Seq ID No 41).

Fig. 7a shows inactivation of certain alpha-amylases (Spezyme® AA20 and M197L (A4 form) with 0.88M H₂O₂ at pH 5.0, 25°C.

Fig. 7b shows inactivation of certain alpha-amylases (Spezyme® AA20, M197T) with 0.88M H₂O₂ at pH 10.0, 25°C.

Fig. 7c shows inactivation of certain alpha-amylases (Spezyme® AA20, M15L) with 0.88M H₂O₂ at pH 5.0, 25°C.

Fig. 8 shows a schematic for the production of M197X cassette mutants.

Fig. 9 shows expression of M197X variants.

Fig. 10 shows thermal stability of M197X variants at pH 5.0, 5mM CaCl₂ at 95°C for 5

mins.

Figs. 11a and 11b show inactivation of certain amylases in automatic dish care detergents. Fig. 11a shows the stability of certain amylases in Cascade™ (a commercially available dish care product) at 65°C in the presence or absence of starch. Fig. 11b shows the stability of certain amylases in Sunlight™ (a commercially available dish care product) at 65°C in the presence or absence of starch.

Fig. 12 shows a schematic for the production of M15X cassette mutants.

Fig. 13 shows expression of M15X variants.

Fig. 14 shows specific activity of M15X variants on soluble starch.

Fig. 15 shows heat stability of M15X variants at 90°C, pH 5.0, 5mM CaCl₂, 5 mins.

Fig. 16 shows specific activity on starch and soluble substrate, and performance in jet liquefaction at pH 5.5, of M15 variants as a function of percent activity of *B. licheniformis* wild-type.

Fig. 17 shows the inactivation of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (AA20 at 0.65 mg/ml) with chloramine-T at pH 8.0 as compared to variants M197A (1.7 mg/ml) and M197L (1.7 mg/ml).

Fig. 18 shows the inactivation of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (AA20 at 0.22 mg/ml) with chloramine-T at pH 4.0 as compared to variants M197A (4.3 mg/ml) and M197L

(0.53 mg/ml).

Fig. 19 shows the reaction of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (AA20 at 0.75 mg/ml) with chloramine-T at pH 5.0 as compared to double variants M197T/W138F (0.64 mg/ml) and M197T/W138Y (0.60 mg/ml).

Detailed Description of the Invention

It is believed that amylases used in starch liquefaction may be subject to some form of inactivation due to some activity present in the starch slurry (see commonly owned US applications 07/785,624 and 07/785,623 and US Patent 5,180,669, issued January 19, 1993, incorporated herein by reference). Furthermore, use of an amylase in the presence of oxidants, such as in bleach or peracid containing detergents, may result in partial or complete inactivation of the amylase. Therefore, the present invention focuses on altering the oxidative sensitivity of amylases. The mutant enzymes of the present invention may also have an altered pH profile and/or altered thermal stability which may be due to the enhanced oxidative stability of the enzyme at low or high pH's.

Alpha-amylase as used herein includes naturally occurring amylases as well as recombinant amylases. Preferred amylases in the present invention are alpha-amylases derived from *B. licheniformis* or *B. stearothermophilus*, including the A4 form of alpha-amylase derived from *B. licheniformis* as described herein, as well as fungal alpha-amylases as those derived from *Aspergillus* (i.e. as *A. oryzae* and *A. niger*).

Recombinant alpha-amylases refers to an alpha-amylase in which the DNA sequence encoding the naturally occurring alpha-amylase is modified to produce a mutant DNA

sequence which encodes the substitution, insertion or deletion of one or more amino acids in the alpha-amylase sequence. Suitable modification methods are disclosed herein, and also in commonly owned US Patents 4,760,025 and 5,185,258, the disclosure of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Homologies have been found between almost all endo-amylases sequenced to date, ranging from plants, mammals, and bacteria (Nakajima, R.T. et al. (1986) Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol. 23:355-360; Rogers, J.C. (1985) Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 128:470-476). There are four areas of particularly high homology in certain *Bacillus* amylases, as shown in Fig. 3, wherein the underlined sections designate the areas of high homology. Further, sequence alignments have been used to map the relationship between *Bacillus* endo-amylases (Feng, D.F. and Doolittle, R.F. (1987) J. Molec. Evol. 35:351-360). The relative sequence homology between *B. stearothersophilus* and *B. licheniformis* amylase is about 66%, as determined by Holm, L. et al. (1990) Protein Engineering 3 (3) pp. 181-191. The sequence homology between *B. licheniformis* and *B. amyloliquefaciens* amylases is about 81%, as per Holm, L. et al., *supra*. While sequence homology is important, it is generally recognized that structural homology is also important in comparing amylases or other enzymes. For example, structural homology between fungal amylases and bacterial (*Bacillus*) amylase have been suggested and, therefore, fungal amylases are encompassed within the present invention.

An alpha-amylase mutant has an amino acid sequence which is derived from the amino acid sequence of a precursor alpha-amylase. The precursor alpha-amylases include naturally occurring alpha-amylases and recombinant alpha-amylases (as defined). The amino acid sequence of the alpha-amylase mutant is derived from the precursor alpha-

amylase amino acid sequence by the substitution, deletion or insertion of one or more amino acids of the precursor amino acid sequence. Such modification is of the precursor DNA sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence of the precursor alpha-amylase rather than manipulation of the precursor alpha-amylase enzyme *per se*. Suitable methods for such manipulation of the precursor DNA sequence include methods disclosed herein and in commonly owned US patent 4,760,025 and 5,185,258.

Specific residues corresponding to positions M197, M15 and W138 of *Bacillus licheniformis* alpha-amylase are identified herein for substitution or deletion, as are all methionine, histidine, tryptophan, cysteine and tyrosine positions. The amino acid position number (i.e., +197) refers to the number assigned to the mature *Bacillus licheniformis* alpha-amylase sequence presented in Fig. 2. The invention, however, is not limited to the mutation of this particular mature alpha-amylase (*B. licheniformis*) but extends to precursor alpha-amylases containing amino acid residues at positions which are equivalent to the particular identified residue in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase. A residue (amino acid) of a precursor alpha-amylase is equivalent to a residue of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase if it is either homologous (i.e., corresponding in position in either primary or tertiary structure) or analogous to a specific residue or portion of that residue in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase (i.e., having the same or similar functional capacity to combine, react, or interact chemically or structurally).

In order to establish homology to primary structure, the amino acid sequence of a precursor alpha-amylase is directly compared to the *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase primary sequence and particularly to a set of residues known to be invariant to all alpha-amylases for which sequence is known, as seen in Fig. 3. It is possible also to

determine equivalent residues by tertiary structure: crystal structures have been reported for porcine pancreatic alpha-amylase (Buisson, G. et al. (1987) EMBO J. 6:3909-3916); Taka-amylase A from *Aspergillus oryzae* (Matsuura, Y. et al. (1984) J. Biochem. (Tokyo) 95:697-702); and an acid alpha-amylase from *A. niger* (Boel, E. et al. (1990) Biochemistry 29:6244-6249), with the former two structures being similar. There are no published structures for *Bacillus* alpha-amylases, although there are predicted to be common super-secondary structures between glucanases (MacGregor, E.A. & Svensson, B. (1989) Biochem. J. 259:145-152) and a structure for the *B. stearothermophilus* enzyme has been modeled on that of Taka-amylase A (Holm, L. et al. (1990) Protein Engineering 3:181-191). The four highly conserved regions shown in Fig. 3 contain many residues thought to be part of the active-site (Matsuura, Y. et al. (1984) J. Biochem. (Tokyo) 95:697-702; Buisson, G. et al. (1987) EMBO J. 6:3909-3916; Vihinen, M. et al. (1990) J. Biochem. 107:267-272) including, in the *licheniformis* numbering, His105; Arg229; Asp231; His235; Glu261 and Asp328.

Expression vector as used herein refers to a DNA construct containing a DNA sequence which is operably linked to a suitable control sequence capable of effecting the expression of said DNA in a suitable host. Such control sequences may include a promoter to effect transcription, an optional operator sequence to control such transcription, a sequence encoding suitable mRNA ribosome-binding sites, and sequences which control termination of transcription and translation. A preferred promoter is the *B. subtilis aprE* promoter. The vector may be a plasmid, a phage particle, or simply a potential genomic insert. Once transformed into a suitable host, the vector may replicate and function independently of the host genome, or may, in some instances, integrate into the genome itself. In the present specification, plasmid and vector are sometimes used interchangeably as the plasmid is the most commonly

used form of vector at present. However, the invention is intended to include such other forms of expression vectors which serve equivalent functions and which are, or become, known in the art.

Host strains (or cells) useful in the present invention generally are procaryotic or eucaryotic hosts and include any transformable microorganism in which the expression of alpha-amylase can be achieved. Specifically, host strains of the same species or genus from which the alpha-amylase is derived are suitable, such as a *Bacillus* strain. Preferably an alpha-amylase negative *Bacillus* strain (genes deleted) and/or an alpha-amylase and protease deleted *Bacillus* strain such as *Bacillus subtilis* strain BG2473 ($\Delta amyE, \Delta apr, \Delta npr$) is used. Host cells are transformed or transfected with vectors constructed using recombinant DNA techniques. Such transformed host cells are capable of either replicating vectors encoding the alpha-amylase and its variants (mutants) or expressing the desired alpha-amylase.

Preferably the mutants of the present invention are secreted into the culture medium during fermentation. Any suitable signal sequence, such as the *aprE* signal peptide, can be used to achieve secretion.

Many of the alpha-amylase mutants of the present invention are useful in formulating various detergent compositions, particularly certain dish care cleaning compositions, especially those cleaning compositions containing known oxidants. Alpha-amylase mutants of the invention can be formulated into known powdered, liquid or gel detergents having pH between 6.5 to 12.0. Suitable granular composition may be made as described in commonly owned US patent applications 07/429,881, 07/533,721 and 07/957,973, all of which are incorporated herein by reference. These

detergent cleaning compositions can also contain other enzymes, such as known proteases, lipases, cellulases, endoglycosidases or other amylases, as well as builders, stabilizers or other excipients known to those skilled in the art. These enzymes can be present as co-granules or as blended mixes or in any other manner known to those skilled in the art. Furthermore, it is contemplated by the present invention that multiple mutants may be useful in cleaning or other applications. For example, a mutant enzyme having changes at both +15 and +197 may exhibit enhanced performance useful in a cleaning product or a multiple mutant comprising changes at +197 and +138 may have improved performance.

As described previously, alpha-amylase mutants of the present invention may also be useful in the liquefaction of starch. Starch liquefaction, particularly granular starch slurry liquefaction, is typically carried out at near neutral pH's and high temperatures. As described in commonly owned US applications 07/788,624 and 07/785,623 and US Patent 5,180,669, it appears that an oxidizing agent or inactivating agent of some sort is also present in typical liquefaction processes, which may affect the enzyme activity; thus, in these related patent applications an antioxidant is added to the process to protect the enzyme.

Based on the conditions of a preferred liquefaction process, as described in commonly owned US applications 07/788,624 and 07/785,623 and US Patent 5,180,669, namely low pH, high temperature and potential oxidation conditions, preferred mutants of the present invention for use in liquefaction processes comprise mutants exhibiting altered pH performance profiles (i.e., low pH profile, pH < 6 and preferably pH < 5.5); and/or altered thermal stability (i.e., high temperature, about 90°-110°C), and/or altered oxidative stability (i.e., enhanced oxidative stability).

Thus, an improved method for liquefying starch is taught by the present invention, the method comprising liquefying a granular starch slurry from either a wet or dry milling process at a pH from about 4 to 6 by adding an effective amount of an alpha-amylase mutant of the present invention to the starch slurry; optionally adding an effective amount of an antioxidant or other excipient to the slurry; and reacting the slurry for an appropriate time and temperature to liquefy the starch.

The following is presented by way of example and is not to be construed as a limitation to the scope of the claims. Abbreviations used herein, particularly three letter or one letter notations for amino acids are described in Dale, J.W., Molecular Genetics of Bacteria, John Wiley & Sons, (1989) Appendix B.

Experimental

Example 1

Substitutions for the Methionine Residues in *B. licheniformis* Alpha-Amylase

The alpha-amylase gene (Fig. 1) was cloned from *B. licheniformis* NCIB8061 obtained from the National Collection of Industrial Bacteria, Aberdeen, Scotland (Gray, G. et al. (1986) J. Bacteriology 166:635-643). The 1.72kb PstI-SstI fragment, encoding the last three residues of the signal sequence; the entire mature protein and the terminator region was subcloned into M13MP18. A synthetic terminator was added between the BclI and SstI sites using a synthetic oligonucleotide cassette of the form:

BclI	SstI
5' GATCAAAACATAAAAAACCGCCTTGGCCCCGCCGTTTTTTATTATTTTTGAGCT	3'
3' TTTTGTATTTTTTGGCCGGAACCGGGGCGGCCAAAAAATAATAAAAC	5'

Seq ID No 1

designed to contain the *B. amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin transcriptional terminator (Wells

et al. (1983) Nucleic Acid Research 11:7911-7925).

Site-directed mutagenesis by oligonucleotides used essentially the protocol of Zoller, M. et al. (1983) Meth. Enzymol. 100:468-500: briefly, 5'-phosphorylated oligonucleotide primers were used to introduce the desired mutations on the M13 single-stranded DNA template using the oligonucleotides listed in Table I to substitute for each of the seven methionines found in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase. Each mutagenic oligonucleotide also introduced a restriction endonuclease site to use as a screen for the linked mutation.

TABLE I

Mutagenic Oligonucleotides for the Substitution of the
Methionine Residues in *B. licheniformis* Alpha-Amylase

5'-T GGG ACG CTG GCG <u>CAG TAC TTT</u> GAA TGG T-3'	Seq ID No 2
M8A ScaI+	
5'-TG ATG <u>CAG TAC TTT</u> GAA TGG <u>TAC CTG</u> CCC AAT GA-3'	Seq ID No 3
M15L ScaI+ KpnI+	
5'-GAT TAT TTG TTG TAT GCC <u>GAT ATC</u> GAC TAT GAC CAT-3'	Seq ID No 4
M197L EcoRV+	
5'-CG GGG AAG <u>GAG GCC</u> TTT ACG GTA GCT-3'	Seq ID No 5
M256A StuI+	
5'-GC GGC TAT <u>GAC TTA</u> AGG AAA TTG C-3'	Seq ID No 6
M304L AflII+	
5'-C TAC GGG <u>GAT GCA</u> TAC GGG ACG A-3'	Seq ID No 7
M366A NsiI+	
5'-C TAC GGG GAT TAC TAC GGG <u>ACC AAG</u> GGA GAC TCC C-3'	Seq ID No 8
M366Y StyI+	
5'-CC GGT GGG <u>GCC AAG CGG</u> <u>GCC</u> TAT GTT GGC CGG CAA A-3'	Seq ID No 9
M438A SfiI+	

Bold letter indicate base changes introduced by oligonucleotide.

Codon changes indicated in the form M8A, where methionine (M) at position +8 has been changed to alanine (A).

Underlining indicates restriction endonuclease site introduced by oligonucleotide.

The heteroduplex was used to transfect *E. coli* mutL cells (Kramer et al. (1984) Cell 38:879) and, after plaque-purification, clones were analyzed by restriction analysis of

the RF1's. Positives were confirmed by dideoxy sequencing (Sanger et al. (1977) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 74:5463-5467) and the PstI-SstI fragments for each subcloned into an *E. coli* vector, plasmid pA4BL.

Plasmid pA4BL

Following the methods described in US application 860,468 (Power et al.), which is incorporated herein by reference, a silent PstI site was introduced at codon +1 (the first amino-acid following the signal cleavage site) of the *aprE* gene from pS168-1 (Stahl, M.L. and Ferrari, E. (1984) J. Bacter. 158:411-418). The *aprE* promoter and signal peptide region was then cloned out of a pJH101 plasmid (Ferrari, F.A. et al. (1983) J. Bacter. 154:1513-1515) as a HindIII-PstI fragment and subcloned into the pUC18-derived plasmid JM102 (Ferrari, E. and Hoch, J.A. (1989) Bacillus, ed. C.R. Harwood, Plenum Pub., pp. 57-72). Addition of the PstI-SstI fragment from *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase gave pA4BL (Fig. 5) having the resulting *aprE* signal peptide-amylase junction as shown in Fig. 6.

Transformation Into *B. subtilis*

pA4BL is a plasmid able to replicate in *E. coli* and integrate into the *B. subtilis* chromosome. Plasmids containing different variants were transformed into *B. subtilis* (Anagnostopoulos, C. and Spizizen, J. (1961) J. Bacter. 81:741-746) and integrated into the chromosome at the *aprE* locus by a Campbell-type mechanism (Young, M. (1984) J. Gen. Microbiol. 130:1613-1621). The *Bacillus subtilis* strain BG2473 was a derivative of I168 which had been deleted for amylase ($\Delta amyE$) and two proteases (Δapr , Δnpr) (Stahl, M.L. and Ferrari, E., J. Bacter. 158:411-418 and US Patent 5,264,366, incorporated herein by reference). After transformation the *sacU32*(Hy) (Henner, D.J. et al. (1988) J. Bacter. 170:296-300) mutation was introduced by PBS-1

mediated transduction (Hoch, J.A. (1983) 154:1513-1515).

N-terminal analysis of the amylase expressed from pA4BL in *B. subtilis* showed it to be processed having four extra alanines at the N-terminus of the secreted amylase protein ("A4 form"). These extra residues had no significant, deleterious effect on the activity or thermal stability of the A4 form and in some applications may enhance performance. In subsequent experiments the correctly processed forms of the *licheniformis* amylase and the variant M197T were made from a very similar construction (see Fig. 6). Specifically, the 5' end of the A4 construction was subcloned on an EcoRI-SstII fragment, from pA4BL (Fig. 5) into M13BM20 (Boehringer Mannheim) in order to obtain a coding-strand template for the mutagenic oligonucleotide below:

5'-CAT CAG CGT CCC ATT AAG ATT TGC AGC CTG CGC AGA CAT GTT
GCT-3'

Seq ID No 10

This primer eliminated the codons for the extra four N-terminal alanines, correct forms being screened for by the absence of the PstI site. Subcloning the EcoRI-SstII fragment back into the pA4BL vector (Fig. 5) gave plasmid pBLapr. The M197T substitution could then be moved, on a SstII-SstI fragment, out of pA4BL (M197T) into the complementary pBLapr vector to give plasmid pBLapr (M197T). N-terminal analysis of the amylase expressed from pBLapr in *B. subtilis* showed it to be processed with the same N-terminus found in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.

Example 2Oxidative Sensitivity of Methionine Variants

B. licheniformis alpha-amylase, such as Spezyme® AA20 (commercially available from Genencor International, Inc.), is inactivated rapidly in the presence of hydrogen peroxide (Fig. 7). Various methionine variants were expressed in shake-flask cultures of *B. subtilis* and the crude supernatants purified by ammonium sulphate cuts. The amylase was precipitated from a 20% saturated ammonium sulphate supernatant by raising the ammonium sulphate to 70% saturated, and then resuspended. The variants were then exposed to 0.88M hydrogen peroxide at pH 5.0, at 25°C. Variants at six of the methionine positions in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase were still subject to oxidation by peroxide while the substitution at position +197 (M197L) showed resistance to peroxide oxidation. (See Fig. 7.) However, subsequent analysis described in further detail below showed that while a variant may be susceptible to oxidation at pH 5.0, 25°C, it may exhibit altered/enhanced properties under different conditions (i.e., liquefaction).

Example 3Construction of All Possible Variants at Position 197

All of the M197 variants (M197X) were produced in the A4 form by cassette mutagenesis, as outlined in Fig. 8:

- 1) Site directed mutagenesis (via primer extension in M13) was used to make M197A using the mutagenic oligonucleotide below:

M197A
 5'-GAT TAT TTG GCG TAT GCC GAT ATC GAC TAT GAC CAT-3'
EcoRV+
ClaI- Seq ID No 11

which also inserted an EcoRV site (codons 200-201) to replace the ClaI site (codons 201-202).

(codons 201-202).

2) Then primer LAAM12 (Table II) was used to introduce another silent restriction site (BstBI) over codons 186-188.

3) The resultant M197A (BstBI +, EcoRV +) variant was then subcloned (PstI-SstI fragment) into plasmid pA4BL and the resultant plasmid digested with BstBI and EcoRV and the large vector-containing fragment isolated by electroelution from agarose gel.

4) Synthetic primers LAAM14-30 (Table II) were each annealed with the largely complementary common primer LAAM13 (Table II). The resulting cassettes encoded for all the remaining naturally occurring amino acids at position +197 and were ligated, individually, into the vector fragment prepared above.

TABLE II

Synthetic Oligonucleotides Used for Cassette Mutagenesis
to Produce M197X Variants

LAAM12	GG GAA GTT <u>TCG AAT</u> GAA AAC G	Seq ID No 12
LAAM13	X197bs (EcoRV) <u>GTC</u> GGC ATA <u>TG CAT</u> ATA ATC ATA GTT GCC GTT TTC ATT (BstBI)	Seq ID No 13
LAAM14	I197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>ATC</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 14
LAAM15	F197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>TTC</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 15
LAAM16	V197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>GTT</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 16
LAAM17	S197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>AGC</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 17
LAAM18	P197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>CCT</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 18
LAAM19	T197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>ACA</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 19
LAAM20	Y197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>TAC</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 20

LAAM21	H197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>CAC</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 21
LAAM22	G197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>GGC</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 22
LAAM23	Q197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>CAA</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 23
LAAM24	N197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>AAC</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 24
LAAM25	K197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>AAA</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 25
LAAM26	D197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>GAT</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 26
LAAM27	E197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>GAA</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 27
LAAM28	C197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>TGT</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 28
LAAM29	W197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>TGG</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 29
LAAM30	R197 (BstBI) CG AAT GAA AAC GGC AAC TAT GAT TAT TTG <u>AGA</u> TAT GCC GAC (EcoRV-)	Seq ID No 30

The cassettes were designed to destroy the EcoRV site upon ligation, thus plasmids from *E. coli* transformants were screened for loss of this unique site. In addition, the common bottom strand of the cassette contained a frame-shift and encoded a NsiI site, thus transformants derived from this strand could be eliminated by screening for the presence of the unique NsiI site and would not be expected, in any case, to lead to expression of active amylase.

Positives by restriction analysis were confirmed by sequencing and transformed in *B. subtilis* for expression in shake-flask cultures (Fig. 9). The specific activity of certain of the M197X mutants was then determined using a soluble substrate assay. The data generated using the following assay methods are presented below in Table III.

Soluble Substrate Assay: A rate assay was developed based on an end-point assay kit

supplied by Megazyme (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.: Each vial of substrate (p-nitrophenyl maltoheptaoside, BPNPG7) was dissolved in 10ml of sterile water, followed by a 1 to 4 dilution in assay buffer (50mM maleate buffer, pH 6.7, 5mM calcium chloride, 0.002% Tween20). Assays were performed by adding 10 μ l of amylase to 790 μ l of the substrate in a cuvette at 25°C. Rates of hydrolysis were measured as the rate of change of absorbance at 410nm, after a delay of 75 seconds. The assay was linear up to rates of 0.4 absorption units/min.

The amylase protein concentration was measured using the standard Bio-Rad assay (Bio-Rad Laboratories) based on the method of Bradford, M. (1976) Anal. Biochem. 72:248) using bovine serum albumin standards.

Starch Hydrolysis Assay: The standard method for assaying the alpha-amylase activity of Spezyme® AA20 was used. This method is described in detail in Example 1 of USSN 07/785,624, incorporated herein by reference. Native starch forms a blue color with iodine but fails to do so when it is hydrolyzed into shorter dextrin molecules. The substrate is soluble Lintner starch 5gm/liter in phosphate buffer, pH 6.2 (42.5gm/liter potassium dihydrogen phosphate, 3.16gm/liter sodium hydroxide). The sample is added in 25mM calcium chloride and activity is measured as the time taken to give a negative iodine test upon incubation at 30°C. Activity is recorded in liquefons per gram or ml (LU) calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{LU/ml or LU/g} = \frac{570}{V \times t} \times D$$

Where LU = liquefon unit

V = volume of sample (5ml)

t = dextrinization time (minutes)

D = dilution factor = dilution volume/ml or g of added enzyme.

TABLE III

<u>ALPHA-AMYLASE</u>	<u>SPECIFIC ACTIVITY (as % of AA20 value) on:</u>	
	<u>Soluble Substrate</u>	<u>Starch</u>
Spezyme® AA20	100	100
A4 form	105	115
M15L (A4 form)	93	94
M15L	85	103
M197T (A4 form)	75	83
M197T	62	81
M197A (A4 form)	88	89
M197C	85	85
M197L (A4 form)	51	17

Example 4Characterization of Variant M15L

Variant M15L made as per the prior examples did not show increased amylase activity (Table III) and was still inactivated by hydrogen peroxide (Fig. 7). It did, however, show significantly increased performance in jet-liquefaction of starch, especially at low pH as shown in Table IV below.

Starch liquefaction was typically performed using a Hydroheater M 103-M steam jet equipped with a 2.5 liter delay coil behind the mixing chamber and a terminal back pressure valve. Starch was fed to the jet by a Moyno pump and steam was supplied by a 150 psi steam line, reduced to 90-100 psi. Temperature probes were installed just after the Hydroheater jet and just before the back pressure valve.

Starch slurry was obtained from a corn wet miller and used within two days. The starch was diluted to the desired solids level with deionized water and the pH of the starch was adjusted with 2% NaOH or saturated Na₂CO₃. Typical liquefaction conditions were:

Starch	32%-35% solids
Calcium	40-50 ppm (30 ppm added)
pH	5.0-6.0
Alpha-amylase	12-14 LU/g starch dry basis

Starch was introduced into the jet at about 350 ml/min. The jet temperature was held at 105°-107°C. Samples of starch were transferred from the jet cooker to a 95°C second stage liquefaction and held for 90 minutes.

The degree of starch liquefaction was measured immediately after the second stage liquefaction by determining the dextrose equivalence (DE) of the sample and by testing for the presence of raw starch, both according to the methods described in the Standard Analytical Methods of the Member Companies of the Corn Refiners Association, Inc., sixth edition. Starch, when treated generally under the conditions given above and at pH 6.0, will yield a liquefied starch with a DE of about 10 and with no raw starch. Results of starch liquefaction tests using mutants of the present invention are provided in Table IV.

TABLE IV
Performance of
Variants M15L (A4 form) and M15L in Starch Liquefaction

	<u>pH</u>	<u>DE after 90 Mins.</u>
Spezyme® AA20	5.9	9.9
M15L (A4 form)	5.9	10.4
Spezyme® AA20	5.2	1.2
M15L (A4 form)	5.2	2.2
Spezyme® AA20	5.9	9.3*
M15L	5.9	11.3*
Spezyme® AA20	5.5	3.25**
M15L	5.5	6.7**
Spezyme® AA20	5.2	0.7**
M15L	5.2	3.65**

* average of three experiments

** average of two experiments

Example 5

Construction of M15X Variants

Following generally the processes described in Example 3 above, all variants at M15 (M15X) were produced in native *B. licheniformis* by cassette mutagenesis, as outlined in Fig. 12:

1) Site directed mutagenesis (via primer extension in M13) was used to introduce unique restriction sites flanking the M15 codon to facilitate insertion of a mutagenesis cassette. Specifically, a BstB1 site at codons 11-13 and a Msc1 site at codons 18-20 were introduced using the two oligonucleotides shown below.

M15XBstB1 5'-G ATG CAG TAT TTC GAA CTGG TAT A-3'
BstB1

Seq ID No 48

M15XMsc1 5'-TG CCC AAT GAT GGC CAA CAT TGG AAG-3'
Msc1

Seq ID No 49

2) The vector for M15X cassette mutagenesis was then constructed by subcloning the SfiI-SstII fragment from the mutagenized amylase (BstB1 + , Msc1 +) into plasmid pBLapr. The resulting plasmid was then digested with BstB1 and Msc1 and the large vector fragment isolated by electroelution from a polyacrylamide gel.

3) Mutagenesis cassettes were created as with the M197X variants. Synthetic oligomers, each encoding a substitution at codon 15, were annealed to a common bottom primer. Upon proper ligation of the cassette to the vector, the Msc1 is destroyed allowing for screening of positive transformants by loss of this site. The bottom primer contains an unique SnaB1 site allowing for the transformants derived from the bottom strand to be eliminated by screening for the SnaB1 site. This primer also contains a frameshift which would also eliminate amylase expression for the mutants derived from the common bottom strand.

The synthetic cassettes are listed in Table V and the general cassette mutagenesis strategy is illustrated in Figure 12.

TABLE V

Synthetic Oligonucleotides Used for Cassette Mutagenesis
to Produce M15X Variants

M15A	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GCT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 50
M15R	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>CGC</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 51
M15N	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>AAT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 52
M15D	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GAT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 53
M15H	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>CAC</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 54
M15K	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>AAA</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 55
M15P	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>CCG</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 56
M15S	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>TCT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 57
M15T	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAC <u>ACT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 58
M15V	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GTT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 59
M15C	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>TGT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 60
M15Q	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>CAA</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 61
M15E	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GAA</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 62
M15G	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>GGT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 63
M15I	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>ATT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 64
M15F	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>TTT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 65
M15W	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAC <u>TGG</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 66
M15Y	(BstB1)	C GAA TGG TAT <u>TAT</u> CCC AAT GAC GG (Msc1)	Seq ID No 67
M15X	(Msc1)	CC GTC ATT GGG ACT ACG TAC CAT T (BstB1) (bottom strand)	Seq ID No 68

Underline indicates codon changes at amino acid position 15.

Conservative substitutions were made in some cases to prevent introduction of new restriction sites.

Example 6

Bench Liquefaction with M15X Variants

Eleven alpha-amylase variants with substitutions for M15 made as per Example 5 were assayed for activity, as compared to Spezyme® AA20 (commercially available from Genencor International, Inc.) in liquefaction at pH 5.5 using a bench liquefaction system. The bench scale liquefaction system consisted of a stainless steel coil (0.25 inch diameter, approximately 350 ml volume) equipped with a 7 inch long static mixing element approximately 12 inches from the anterior end and a 30 psi back pressure valve at the posterior end. The coil, except for each end, was immersed in a glycerol-water bath equipped with thermostatically controlled heating elements that maintained the bath at 105-106°C.

Starch slurry containing enzyme, maintained in suspension by stirring, was introduced into the reaction coil by a piston driven metering pump at about 70 ml/min. The starch was recovered from the end of the coil and was transferred to the secondary hold (95°C for 90 minutes). Immediately after the secondary hold, the DE of the liquefied starch was determined, as described in Example 4. The results are shown in Fig. 16.

Example 7

Characterization of M197X Variants

As can be seen in Fig. 9, there was a wide range of amylase activity (measured in the soluble substrate assay) expressed by the M197X (A4 form) variants. The amylases were partially purified from the supernatants by precipitation with two volumes of ethanol and resuspension. They were then screened for thermal stability (Fig. 10) by heating at 95°C for 5 minutes in 10mM acetate buffer pH 5.0, in the presence of 5mM calcium chloride; the A4 wild-type retained 28% of its activity after incubation. For

M197W and M197P we were unable to recover active protein from the supernatants. Upon sequencing, the M197H variant was found to contain a second mutation, N190K. M197L was examined in a separate experiment and was one of the lowest thermally stable variants. There appears to be a broad correlation between expression of amylase activity and thermal stability. The *licheniformis* amylase is restricted in what residues it can accommodate at position 197 in terms of retaining or enhancing thermal stability: cysteine and threonine are preferred for maximal thermal stability under these conditions whereas alanine and isoleucine are of intermediate stability. However, other substitutions at position +197 result in lowered thermal stability which may be useful for other applications. Additionally, different substitutions at +197 may have other beneficial properties, such as altered pH performance profile or altered oxidative stability. For example, the M197C variant was found to inactivate readily by air oxidation but had enhanced thermal stability. Conversely, compared to the M197L variant, both M197T and M197A retained not only high thermal stability (Fig. 10), but also high activity (Table III), while maintaining resistance to inactivation by peroxide at pH 5 to pH 10 (Fig. 7).

Example 8

Stability and Performance in Detergent Formulation

The stability of the M197T (A4 form), M197T and M197A (A4 form) was measured in automatic dish care detergent (ADD) matrices. 2ppm Savinase™ (a protease, commercially available from Novo Industries, of the type commonly used in ADD) were added to two commercially available bleach-containing ADD's: Cascade™ (Procter and Gamble, Ltd.) and Sunlight™ (Unilever) and the time course of inactivation of the amylase variants and Termamyl™ (a thermally stable alpha-amylase available from Novo Nordisk, A/S) followed at 65°C. The concentration of ADD product used in both cases

was equivalent to 'pre-soak' conditions: 14gm product per liter of water (7 grams per gallon hardness). As can be seen (Figs. 11a and 11b), both forms of the M197T variant were much more stable than Termamyl™ and M197A (A4 form), which were inactivated before the first assay could be performed. This stability benefit was seen in the presence or absence of starch as determined by the following protocol. Amylases were added to 5ml of ADD and Savinase™, prewarmed in a test tube and, after vortexing, activities were assayed as a function of time, using the soluble substrate assay. The "+ starch" tube had spaghetti starch baked onto the sides (140°C, 60 mins.). The results are shown in Figs. 11a and 11b.

Example 9

Characterization of M15X Variants

All M15X variants were propagated in *Bacillus subtilis* and the expression level monitored as shown in Fig. 13. The amylase was isolated and partially purified by a 20-70% ammonium sulfate cut. The specific activity of these variants on the soluble substrate was determined as per Example 3 (Fig. 14). Many of the M15X amylases have specific activities greater than that of Spezyme® AA20. A benchtop heat stability assay was performed on the variants by heating the amylase at 90°C for 5 min. in 50 mM acetate buffer pH 5 in the presence of 5 mM CaCl₂ (Fig. 15). Most of the variants performed as well as Spezyme® AA20 in this assay. Those variants that exhibited reasonable stability in this assay (reasonable stability defined as those that retained at least about 60% of Spezyme® AA20's heat stability) were tested for specific activity on starch and for liquefaction performance at pH 5.5. The most interesting of those mutants are shown in Fig. 16. M15D, N and T, along with L, outperformed Spezyme® AA20 in liquefaction at pH 5.5 and have increased specific activities in both the soluble substrate and starch hydrolysis assays.

Generally, we have found that by substituting for the methionine at position 15, we can provide variants with increased low pH-liquefaction performance and/or increased specific activity.

Example 10

Tryptophan Sensitivity to Oxidation

Chloramine-T (sodium N-chloro-*p*-toluenesulfonimide) is a selective oxidant, which oxidizes methionine to methionine sulfoxide at neutral or alkaline pH. At acidic pH, chloramine-T will modify both methionine and tryptophan (Schechter, Y., Burstein, Y. and Patchornik, A. (1975) Biochemistry 14 (20) 4497-4503). Fig. 17 shows the inactivation of *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase with chloramine-T at pH 8.0 (AA20 = 0.65 mg/ml, M197A = 1.7 mg/ml, M197L = 1.7 mg/ml). The data shows that by changing the methionine at position 197 to leucine or alanine, the inactivation of alpha-amylase can be prevented. Conversely, as shown in Fig. 18, at pH 4.0 inactivation of the M197A and M197L proceeds, but require more equivalents of chloramine-T (Fig. 18; AA20 = 0.22 mg/ml, M197A = 4.3 mg/ml, M197L = 0.53 mg/ml; 200 mM NaAcetate at pH 4.0). This suggests that a tryptophan residue is also implicated in the chloramine-T mediated inactivation event. Furthermore, tryptic mapping and subsequent amino acid sequencing indicated that the tryptophan at position 138 was oxidized by chloramine-T (data not shown). To prove this, site-directed mutants were made at tryptophan 138 as provided below:

Preparation of Alpha-Amylase Double Mutants W138 and M197

Certain variants of W138 (F, Y and A) were made as double mutants, with M197T (made as per the disclosure of Example 3). The double mutants were made following the methods described in Examples 1 and 3. Generally, single negative strands of DNA

were prepared from an M13MP18 clone of the 1.72kb coding sequence (Pst I-Sst I) of the *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase M197T mutant. Site-directed mutagenesis was done using the primers listed below, essentially by the method of Zoller, M. et al. (1983) except T4 gene 32 protein and T4 polymerase were substituted for klenow. The primers all contained unique sites, as well as the desired mutation, in order to identify those clones with the appropriate mutation.

Tryptophan 138 to Phenylalanine

133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143
CAC CTA ATT AAA GCT TTC ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT
Hind III

Seq ID No 42

Tryptophan 138 to Tyrosine

133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143
CAC CTA ATT AAA GCT TAC ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT
Hind III

Seq ID No 43

Tryptophan 138 to Alanine - This primer also engineers unique sites upstream and downstream of the 138 position.

127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142
C CGC GTA ATT TCC GGA GAA CAC CTA ATT AAA GCC GCA ACA CAT TTT CAT
BspE I

143 144 145 146 147
TTT CCC GGG CGC GGC AG
Xma I

Seq ID No 44

Mutants were identified by restriction analysis and W138F and W138Y confirmed by DNA sequencing. The W138A sequence revealed a nucleotide deletion between the unique BspE I and Xma I sites, however, the rest of the gene sequenced correctly. The 1.37kb SstII/SstI fragment containing both W138X and M197T mutations was moved from M13MP18 into the expression vector pBLapr resulting in pBLapr (W138F, M197T) and pBLapr (W138Y, M197T). The fragment containing unique BspE I and Xma I sites was cloned into pBLapr (BspE I, Xma I, M197T) since it is useful for cloning cassettes containing other amino acid substitutions at position 138.

Single Mutations at Amino Acid Position 138

Following the general methods described in the prior examples, certain single variants of W138 (F, Y, L, H and C) were made.

The 1.24kb Asp718-SstI fragment containing the M197T mutation in plasmid pBLapr (W138X, M197T) of Example 7 was replaced by the wild-type fragment with methionine at 197, resulting in pBLapr (W138F), pBLapr (W138Y) and pBLapr (BspE I, Xma I).

The mutants W138L, W138H and W138C were made by ligating synthetic cassettes into the pBLapr (BspE I, Xma I) vector using the following primers:

Tryptophan 138 to Leucine

CC GGA GAA CAC CTA ATT AAA GCC CTA ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT C

Seq ID No 45

Tryptophan 138 to Histidine

CC GGA GAA CAC CTA ATT AAA GCC CAC ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT C

Seq ID No 46

Tryptophan 138 to Cysteine

CC GGA GAA CAC CTA ATT AAA GCC TGC ACA CAT TTT CAT TTT C

Seq ID No 47

Reaction of the double mutants M197T/W138F and M197T/W138Y with chloramine-T was compared with wild-type (AA20 = 0.75 mg/ml, M197T/W138F = 0.64 mg/ml, M197T/W138Y = 0.60 mg/ml; 50 mM NaAcetate at pH 5.0). The results shown in Fig. 19 show that mutagenesis of tryptophan 138 has caused the variant to be more resistant to chloramine-T.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

- (i) APPLICANT: GENENCOR INTERNTIONAL, INC.
- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Oxidatively Stable Alpha-Amylase
- (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 68
- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 - (A) ADDRESSEE: Genencor International, Inc.
 - (B) STREET: 180 Kimball Way
 - (C) CITY: South San Francisco
 - (D) STATE: CA
 - (E) COUNTRY: USA
 - (F) ZIP: 94080
- (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 - (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25
- (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
 - (B) FILING DATE:
 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
 - (A) NAME: Horn, Margaret A.
 - (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 33,401
 - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: GC220-2
- (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
 - (A) TELEPHONE: (415) 742-7536
 - (B) TELEFAX: (415) 742-7217

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 56 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

GATCAAAACA TAAAAAACCG GCCTTGCCCC CGCCGGTTTT TTATTATTTT TGAGCT

56

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

TGGGACGCTG GCGCAGTACT TTGAATGGT

29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 34 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

TGATGCAGTA CTTTGAATGG TACCTGCCCA ATGA

34

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

GATTATTTGT TGTATGCCGA TATCGACTAT GACCAT

36

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 26 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

CGGGGAAGGA GGCCTTTACC GTAGCT

26

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

GCGGCTATGA CTTAAGGAAA TTGC

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 23 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

CTACGGGGAT GCATACGGGA CGA

23

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 35 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

CTACGGGGAT TACTACGGGA CCAAGGGAGA CTCCC

35

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

CCGGTGGGGC CAAGCGGGCC TATGTTGGCC GGCAAA

36

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 45 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:
CATCAGCGTC CCATTAAGAT TTGCAGCCTG CGCAGACATG TTGCT 45
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:
- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:
GATTATTTGG CGTATGCCGA TATCGACTAT GACCAT 36
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:
- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:
GGGAAGTTTC GAATGAAAAC G 21
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:
- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 38 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:
GTGGGCATAT GCATATAATC ATAGTTGCCG TTTTCATT 38
- (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:
- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:
CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA TCTATGCCGA C 41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGT TCTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:16:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGG TTTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA GCTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGC CTTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA CATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:20:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGT ACTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:21:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGC ACTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:22:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGG GCTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:23:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:23:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGC AATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:24:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:24:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA ACTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:25:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:25:

GCAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA AATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:26:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:26:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGG ATTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:27:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:27:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGG AATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:28:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:28:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGT GTATTGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:29:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:29:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGT GGTATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:30:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 41 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:30:

CGAATGAAAA CGGCAACTAT GATTATTTGA GATATGCCGA C

41

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:31:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1968 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:31:

AGCTTGAAGA AGTGAAGAAG CAGAGAGGCT ATTGAATAAA TGAGTAGAAA GCGCCATATC 60

GGCGCTTTTC TTTTGGAAGA AAATATAGGG AAAATGGTAC TTGTTAAAAA TTCGGAATAT 120
TTATACAACA TCATATGTTT CACATTGAAA GGGGAGGAGA ATCATGAAAC AACAAAAACG 180
GCTTTACGCC CGATTGCTGA CGCTGTTATT TCGGCTCATC TTCTTGCTGC CTCATTCTGC 240
AGCAGCGGCG GCAAATCTTA ATGGGACGCT GATGCAGTAT TTTGAATGGT ACATGCCCAA 300
TGACGGCCAA CATTGGAAGC GTTTGCAAAA CGACTCGGCA TATTGGCTG AACACGGTAT 360
TACTGCCGTC TGGATTCCCC CGGCATATAA GGAACGAGC CAAGCGGATG TGGGCTACGG 420
TGCTTACGAC CTTTATGATT TAGGGGAGTT TCATCAAAAA GGGACGGTTC GGACAAAGTA 480
CGGCACAAAA GGAGAGCTGC AATCTGCGAT CAAAAGTCTT CATTCCCGCG ACATTAACGT 540
TTACGGGGAT GTGGTCATCA ACCACAAAGG CGGCGCTGAT GCGACCGAAG ATGTAACCGC 600
GGTTGAAGTC GATCCCGCTG ACCGCAACCG CGTAATTTCA GGAGAACACC TAATTAAAGC 660
CTGGACACAT TTTCAATTTT CGGGGCGCGG CAGCACATAC AGCGATTTTA AATGGCATTG 720
GTACCATTTT GACGGAACCG ATTGGGACGA GTCCCGAAAG CTGAACCGCA TCTATAAGTT 780
TCAAGGAAAG GCTTGGGATT GGGAAGTTTC CAATGAAAAC GGCAACTATG ATTATTTGAT 840
GTATGCCGAC ATCGATTATG ACCATCCTGA TGTCGCAGCA GAAATTAAGA GATGGGGCAC 900
TTGGTATGCC AATGAACTGC AATTGGACGG TTTCCGTCTT GATGCTGTCA AACACATTAA 960
ATTTTCTTTT TTGCGGGATT GGGTTAATCA TGTCAGGGAA AAAACGGGGA AGGAAATGTT 1020
TACGGTAGCT GAATATTGGC AGAATGACTT GGGCGCGCTG GAAACTATT TGAACAAAAC 1080
AAATTTTAAT CATTCACTGT TTGACGTGCC GCTTCATTAT CAGTTCATG CTGCATCGAC 1140
ACAGGGAGGC GGCTATGATA TGAGGAAATT GCTGAACGGT ACGGTCGTTT CCAAGCATCC 1200
GTTGAAATCG GTTACATTTG TCGATAACCA TGATACACAG CCGGGGCAAT CGCTTGAGTC 1260
GACTGTCCAA ACATGGTTTA AGCCGCTTGC TTACGCTTTT ATTCTCACA GGAATCTGG 1320
ATACCCTCAG GTTTTCTACG GGGATATGTA CGGGACGAAA GGAGACTCCC AGCGCGAAAT 1380
TCCTGCCTTG AAACACAAAA TTGAACCGAT CTTAAAAGCG AGAAAACAGT ATGCGTACGG 1440
AGCACAGCAT GATTATTTTC ACCACCATGA CATTGTCCGG TGGACAAGGG AAGGCGACAG 1500
CTCGGTTGCA AATTCAGGTT TGGCGGCATT AATAACAGAC GGACCCGGTG GGGCAAAGCG 1560
AATGTATGTC GGCCGGCAAA ACGCCGGTGA GACATGGCAT GACATTACCG GAAACCGTTC 1620
GGAGCCGGTT GTCATCAATT CGGAAGGCTG GGGAGAGTTT CACGTAAACG GCGGGTCGGT 1680
TTCAATTTAT GTTCAAAGAT AGAAGAGCAG AGAGGACGGA TTTCTGAAG GAAATCCGTT 1740
TTTTTATTTT GCCCGTCTTA TAAATTTCTT TGATTACATT TTATAATTAA TTTTAACAAA 1800
GTGTCATCAG CCCTCAGGAA GGAATTGCTG ACAGTTTGAA TCGCATAGGT AAGGCGGGGA 1860
TGAAATGGCA ACGTTATCTG ATGTAGCAAA GAAAGCAAAT GTGTCGAAAA TGACGGTATC 1920
GCGGGTGATC AATCATCTG AGACTGTGAC GGATGAATTG AAAAAGCT 1968

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:32:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 483 amino acids

(B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:32:

```

Ala Asn Leu Asn Gly Thr Leu Met Gln Tyr Phe Glu Trp Tyr Met Pro
 1           5           10           15
Asn Asp Gly Gln His Trp Lys Arg Leu Gln Asn Asp Ser Ala Tyr Leu
 20           25           30
Ala Glu His Gly Ile Thr Ala Val Trp Ile Pro Pro Ala Tyr Lys Gly
 35           40           45
Thr Ser Gln Ala Asp Val Gly Tyr Gly Ala Tyr Asp Leu Tyr Asp Leu
 50           55           60
Gly Glu Phe His Gln Lys Gly Thr Val Arg Thr Lys Tyr Gly Thr Lys
 65           70           75           80
Gly Glu Leu Gln Ser Ala Ile Lys Ser Leu His Ser Arg Asp Ile Asn
 85           90           95
Val Tyr Gly Asp Val Val Ile Asn His Lys Gly Gly Ala Asp Ala Thr
 100          105          110
Glu Asp Val Thr Ala Val Glu Val Asp Pro Ala Asp Arg Asn Arg Val
 115          120          125
Ile Ser Gly Glu His Leu Ile Lys Ala Trp Thr His Phe His Phe Pro
 130          135          140
Gly Arg Gly Ser Thr Tyr Ser Asp Phe Lys Trp His Trp Tyr His Phe
 145          150          155          160
Asp Gly Thr Asp Trp Asp Glu Ser Arg Lys Leu Asn Arg Ile Tyr Lys
 165          170          175
Phe Gln Gly Lys Ala Trp Asp Trp Glu Val Ser Asn Glu Asn Gly Asn
 180          185          190
Tyr Asp Tyr Leu Met Tyr Ala Asp Ile Asp Tyr Asp His Pro Asp Val
 195          200          205
Ala Ala Glu Ile Lys Arg Trp Gly Thr Trp Tyr Ala Asn Glu Leu Gln
 210          215          220
Leu Asp Gly Phe Arg Leu Asp Ala Val Lys His Ile Lys Phe Ser Phe
 225          230          235          240
Leu Arg Asp Trp Val Asn His Val Arg Glu Lys Thr Gly Lys Glu Met
 245          250          255
Phe Thr Val Ala Glu Tyr Trp Gln Asn Asp Leu Gly Ala Leu Glu Asn
 260          265          270
Tyr Leu Asn Lys Thr Asn Phe Asn His Ser Val Phe Asp Val Pro Leu
 275          280          285
His Tyr Gln Phe His Ala Ala Ser Thr Gln Gly Gly Gly Tyr Asp Met
 290          295          300
Arg Lys Leu Leu Asn Gly Thr Val Val Ser Lys His Pro Leu Lys Ser
  
```


305		310		315		320
Val Thr Phe Val	Asp Asn His Asp Thr Gln Pro Gly Gln Ser Leu Glu					
	325			330		335
Ser Thr Val Gln Thr Trp Phe Lys Pro Leu Ala Tyr Ala Phe Ile Leu						
	340		345			350
Thr Arg Glu Ser Gly Tyr Pro Gln Val Phe Tyr Gly Asp Met Tyr Gly						
	355		360			365
Thr Lys Gly Asp Ser Gln Arg Glu Ile Pro Ala Leu Lys His Lys Ile						
	370		375			380
Glu Pro Ile Leu Lys Ala Arg Lys Gln Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Gln His						
	385		390		395	400
Asp Tyr Phe Asp His His Asp Ile Val Gly Trp Thr Arg Glu Gly Asp						
	405		410			415
Ser Ser Val Ala Asn Ser Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Ile Thr Asp Gly Pro						
	420		425			430
Gly Gly Ala Lys Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Arg Gln Asn Ala Gly Glu Thr						
	435		440			445
Trp His Asp Ile Thr Gly Asn Arg Ser Glu Pro Val Val Ile Asn Ser						
	450		455			460
Glu Gly Trp Gly Glu Phe His Val Asn Gly Gly Ser Val Ser Ile Tyr						
	465		470		475	480
Val Gln Arg						

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:33:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 511 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:33:

Met Lys Gln Gln Lys Arg Leu Tyr Ala Arg Leu Leu Thr Leu Leu Phe																			
1				5				10											15
Ala Leu Ile Phe Leu Leu Pro His Ser Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Asn Leu																			
			20					25											30
Asn Gly Thr Leu Met Gln Tyr Phe Glu Trp Tyr Met Pro Asn Asp Gly																			
			35					40											45
His Trp Lys Arg Leu Gln Asn Asp Ser Ala Tyr Leu Ala Glu His Gly																			
			50					55											60
Ile Thr Ala Val Trp Ile Pro Pro Ala Tyr Lys Gly Thr Ser Gln Ala																			
			65					70											75
Asp Val Gly Tyr Gly Ala Tyr Asp Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Glu Phe His																			
			85																90
Gln Lys Gly Thr Val Arg Thr Lys Tyr Gly Thr Lys Gly Glu Leu Gln																			

48

Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Arg Gln Asn Ala Gly Glu Thr Trp His Asp Ile
 465 470 475 480

Thr Gly Asn Arg Ser Glu Pro Val Val Ile Asn Ser Glu Gly Trp Gly
 485 490 495

Glu Phe His Val Asn Gly Gly Ser Val Ser Ile Tyr Val Gln Arg
 500 505 510

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:34:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 520 amino acids
 (B) TYPE: amino acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:34:

Met Arg Gly Arg Gly Asn Met Ile Gln Lys Arg Lys Arg Thr Val Ser
 1 5 10 15

Phe Arg Leu Val Leu Met Cys Thr Leu Leu Phe Val Ser Leu Pro Ile
 20 25 30

Thr Lys Thr Ser Ala Val Asn Gly Thr Leu Met Gln Tyr Phe Glu Trp
 35 40 45

Tyr Thr Pro Asn Asp Gly Gln His Trp Lys Arg Leu Gln Asn Asp Ala
 50 55 60

Glu His Leu Ser Asp Ile Gly Ile Thr Ala Val Trp Ile Pro Pro Ala
 65 70 75 80

Tyr Lys Gly Leu Ser Gln Ser Asp Asn Gly Tyr Gly Pro Tyr Asp Leu
 85 90 95

Tyr Asp Leu Gly Glu Phe Gln Gln Lys Gly Thr Val Arg Thr Lys Tyr
 100 105 110

Gly Thr Lys Ser Glu Leu Gln Asp Ala Ile Gly Ser Leu His Ser Arg
 115 120 125

Asn Val Gln Val Tyr Gly Asp Val Val Leu Asn His Lys Ala Gly Ala
 130 135 140

Asp Ala Thr Glu Asp Val Thr Ala Val Glu Val Asn Pro Ala Asn Arg
 145 150 155 160

Asn Gln Glu Thr Ser Glu Glu Tyr Gln Ile Lys Ala Trp Thr Asp Phe
 165 170 175

Arg Phe Pro Gly Arg Gly Asn Thr Tyr Ser Asp Phe Lys Trp His Trp
 180 185 190

Tyr His Phe Asp Gly Ala Asp Trp Asp Glu Ser Arg Lys Ile Ser Arg
 195 200 205

Ile Phe Lys Phe Arg Gly Glu Gly Lys Ala Trp Asp Trp Glu Val Ser
 210 215 220

Ser Glu Asn Gly Asn Tyr Asp Tyr Leu Met Tyr Ala Asp Val Asp Tyr
 225 230 235 240

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Asp His Pro Asp Val Val Ala Glu Thr Lys Lys Trp Gly Ile Trp Tyr
      245                      250                      255

Ala Asn Glu Leu Ser Leu Asp Gly Phe Arg Ile Asp Ala Ala Lys His
      260                      265                      270

Ile Lys Phe Ser Phe Leu Arg Asp Trp Val Gln Ala Val Arg Gln Ala
      275                      280                      285

Thr Gly Lys Glu Met Phe Thr Val Ala Glu Tyr Trp Gln Asn Asn Ala
      290                      295                      300

Gly Lys Leu Glu Asn Tyr Leu Asn Lys Thr Ser Phe Asn Gln Ser Val
      305                      310                      315                      320

Phe Asp Val Pro Leu His Phe Asn Leu Gln Ala Ala Ser Ser Gln Gly
      325                      330                      335

Gly Gly Tyr Asp Met Arg Arg Leu Leu Asp Gly Thr Val Val Ser Arg
      340                      345                      350

His Pro Glu Lys Ala Val Thr Phe Val Glu Asn His Asp Thr Gln Pro
      355                      360                      365

Gly Gln Ser Leu Glu Ser Thr Val Gln Thr Trp Phe Lys Pro Leu Ala
      370                      375                      380

Tyr Ala Phe Ile Leu Thr Arg Glu Ser Gly Tyr Pro Gln Val Phe Tyr
      385                      390                      395                      400

Gly Asp Met Tyr Gly Thr Lys Gly Thr Ser Pro Lys Glu Ile Pro Ser
      405                      410                      415

Leu Lys Asp Asn Ile Glu Pro Ile Leu Lys Ala Arg Lys Glu Tyr Ala
      420                      425                      430

Tyr Gly Pro Gln His Asp Tyr Ile Asp His Pro Asp Val Ile Gly Trp
      435                      440                      445

Thr Arg Glu Gly Asp Ser Ser Ala Ala Lys Ser Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu
      450                      455                      460

Ile Thr Asp Gly Pro Gly Gly Ser Lys Arg Met Tyr Ala Gly Leu Lys
      465                      470                      475                      480

Asn Ala Gly Glu Thr Trp Tyr Asp Ile Thr Gly Asn Arg Ser Asp Thr
      485                      490                      495

Val Lys Ile Gly Ser Asp Gly Trp Gly Glu Phe His Val Asn Asp Gly
      500                      505                      510

Ser Val Ser Ile Tyr Val Gln Lys
      515                      520

```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:35:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 548 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:35:

Val Leu Thr Phe His Arg Ile Ile Arg Lys Gly Trp Met Phe Leu Leu
 1 5 10 15
 Ala Phe Leu Leu Thr Ala Ser Leu Phe Cys Pro Thr Gly Arg His Ala
 20 25 30
 Lys Ala Ala Ala Pro Phe Asn Gly Thr Met Met Gln Tyr Phe Glu Trp
 35 40 45
 Tyr Leu Pro Asp Asp Gly Thr Leu Trp Thr Lys Val Ala Asn Glu Ala
 50 55 60
 Asn Asn Leu Ser Ser Leu Gly Ile Thr Ala Leu Ser Leu Pro Pro Ala
 65 70 75 80
 Tyr Lys Gly Thr Ser Arg Ser Asp Val Gly Tyr Gly Val Tyr Asp Leu
 85 90 95
 Tyr Asp Leu Gly Glu Phe Asn Gln Lys Gly Thr Val Arg Thr Lys Tyr
 100 105 110
 Gly Thr Lys Ala Gln Tyr Leu Gln Ala Ile Gln Ala Ala His Ala Ala
 115 120 125
 Gly Met Gln Val Tyr Ala Asp Val Val Phe Asp His Lys Gly Gly Ala
 130 135 140
 Asp Gly Thr Glu Trp Val Asp Ala Val Glu Val Asn Pro Ser Asp Arg
 145 150 155 160
 Asn Gln Glu Ile Ser Gly Thr Tyr Gln Ile Gln Ala Trp Thr Lys Phe
 165 170 175
 Asp Phe Pro Gly Arg Gly Asn Thr Tyr Ser Ser Phe Lys Trp Arg Trp
 180 185 190
 Tyr His Phe Asp Gly Val Asp Trp Asp Glu Ser Arg Lys Leu Ser Arg
 195 200 205
 Ile Tyr Lys Phe Arg Gly Ile Gly Lys Ala Trp Asp Trp Glu Val Asp
 210 215 220
 Thr Glu Asn Gly Asn Tyr Asp Tyr Leu Met Tyr Ala Asp Leu Asp Met
 225 230 235 240
 Asp His Pro Glu Val Val Thr Glu Leu Lys Asn Trp Gly Lys Trp Tyr
 245 250 255
 Val Asn Thr Thr Asn Ile Asp Gly Phe Arg Leu Asp Gly Leu Lys His
 260 265 270
 Ile Lys Phe Ser Phe Phe Pro Asp Trp Leu Ser Tyr Val Arg Ser Gln
 275 280 285
 Thr Gly Lys Pro Leu Phe Thr Val Gly Glu Tyr Trp Ser Tyr Asp Ile
 290 295 300
 Asn Lys Leu His Asn Tyr Ile Thr Lys Thr Asn Gly Thr Met Ser Leu
 305 310 315 320
 Phe Asp Ala Pro Leu His Asn Lys Phe Tyr Thr Ala Ser Lys Ser Gly
 325 330 335
 Gly Ala Phe Asp Met Arg Thr Leu Met Thr Asn Thr Leu Met Lys Asp
 340 345 350
 Gln Pro Thr Leu Ala Val Thr Phe Val Asp Asn His Asp Thr Asn Pro
 355 360 365

Ala Lys Arg Cys Ser His Gly Arg Pro Trp Phe Lys Pro Leu Ala Tyr
 370 375 380

Ala Phe Ile Leu Thr Arg Gln Glu Gly Tyr Pro Cys Val Phe Tyr Gly
 385 390 395 400

Asp Tyr Tyr Gly Ile Pro Gln Tyr Asn Ile Pro Ser Leu Lys Ser Lys
 405 410 415

Ile Asp Pro Leu Leu Ile Ala Arg Arg Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Thr Gln
 420 425 430

His Asp Tyr Leu Asp His Ser Asp Ile Ile Gly Trp Thr Arg Glu Gly
 435 440 445

Val Thr Glu Lys Pro Gly Ser Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Ile Thr Asp Gly
 450 455 460

Ala Gly Arg Ser Lys Trp Met Tyr Val Gly Lys Gln His Ala Gly Lys
 465 470 475 480

Val Phe Tyr Asp Leu Thr Gly Asn Arg Ser Asp Thr Val Thr Ile Asn
 485 490 495

Ser Asp Gly Trp Gly Glu Phe Lys Val Asn Gly Gly Ser Val Ser Val
 500 505 510

Trp Val Pro Arg Lys Thr Thr Val Ser Thr Ile Ala Arg Pro Ile Thr
 515 520 525

Thr Arg Pro Trp Thr Gly Glu Phe Val Arg Trp His Glu Pro Arg Leu
 530 535 540

Val Ala Trp Pro
 545

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:36:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 483 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:36:

Ala Asn Leu Asn Gly Thr Leu Met Gln Tyr Phe Glu Trp Tyr Met Pro
 1 5 10 15

Asn Asp Gly Gln His Trp Lys Arg Leu Gln Asn Asp Ser Ala Tyr Leu
 20 25 30

Ala Glu His Gly Ile Thr Ala Val Trp Ile Pro Pro Ala Tyr Lys Gly
 35 40 45

Thr Ser Gln Ala Asp Val Gly Tyr Gly Ala Tyr Asp Leu Tyr Asp Leu
 50 55 60

Gly Glu Phe His Gln Lys Gly Thr Val Arg Thr Lys Tyr Gly Thr Lys
 65 70 75 80

Gly Glu Leu Gln Ser Ala Ile Lys Ser Leu His Ser Arg Asp Ile Asn
 85 90 95

Val Tyr Gly Asp Val Val Ile Asn His Lys Gly Gly Ala Asp Ala Thr
 100 105 110
 Glu Asp Val Thr Ala Val Glu Val Asp Pro Ala Asp Arg Asn Arg Val
 115 120 125
 Ile Ser Gly Glu His Leu Ile Lys Ala Trp Thr His Phe His Phe Pro
 130 135 140
 Gly Arg Gly Ser Thr Tyr Ser Asp Phe Lys Trp His Trp Tyr His Phe
 145 150 155 160
 Asp Gly Thr Asp Trp Asp Glu Ser Arg Lys Leu Asn Arg Ile Tyr Lys
 165 170 175
 Phe Gln Gly Lys Ala Trp Asp Trp Glu Val Ser Asn Glu Asn Gly Asn
 180 185 190
 Tyr Asp Tyr Leu Thr Tyr Ala Asp Ile Asp Tyr Asp His Pro Asp Val
 195 200 205
 Ala Ala Glu Ile Lys Arg Trp Gly Thr Trp Tyr Ala Asn Glu Leu Gln
 210 215 220
 Leu Asp Gly Phe Arg Leu Asp Ala Val Lys His Ile Lys Phe Ser Phe
 225 230 235 240
 Leu Arg Asp Trp Val Asn His Val Arg Glu Lys Thr Gly Lys Glu Met
 245 250 255
 Phe Thr Val Ala Glu Tyr Trp Gln Asn Asp Leu Gly Ala Leu Glu Asn
 260 265 270
 Tyr Leu Asn Lys Thr Asn Phe Asn His Ser Val Phe Asp Val Pro Leu
 275 280 285
 His Tyr Gln Phe His Ala Ala Ser Thr Gln Gly Gly Gly Tyr Asp Met
 290 295 300
 Arg Lys Leu Leu Asn Gly Thr Val Val Ser Lys His Pro Leu Lys Ser
 305 310 315 320
 Val Thr Phe Val Asp Asn His Asp Thr Gln Pro Gly Gln Ser Leu Glu
 325 330 335
 Ser Thr Val Gln Thr Trp Phe Lys Pro Leu Ala Tyr Ala Phe Ile Leu
 340 345 350
 Thr Arg Glu Ser Gly Tyr Pro Gln Val Phe Tyr Gly Asp Met Tyr Gly
 355 360 365
 Thr Lys Gly Asp Ser Gln Arg Glu Ile Pro Ala Leu Lys His Lys Ile
 370 375 380
 Glu Pro Ile Leu Lys Ala Arg Lys Gln Tyr Ala Tyr Gly Ala Gln His
 385 390 395 400
 Asp Tyr Phe Asp His His Asp Ile Val Gly Trp Thr Arg Glu Gly Asp
 405 410 415
 Ser Ser Val Ala Asn Ser Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Ile Thr Asp Gly Pro
 420 425 430
 Gly Gly Ala Lys Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Arg Gln Asn Ala Gly Glu Thr
 435 440 445
 Trp His Asp Ile Thr Gly Asn Arg Ser Glu Pro Val Val Ile Asn Ser
 450 455 460

Glu Gly Trp Gly Glu Phe His Val Asn Gly Gly Ser Val Ser Ile Tyr
 465 470 475 480

Val Gln Arg

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:37:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 487 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:37:

Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Asn Leu Asn Gly Thr Leu Met Gln Tyr Phe Glu
 1 5 10 15
 Trp Tyr Met Pro Asn Asp Gly Gln His Trp Lys Arg Leu Gln Asn Asp
 20 25 30
 Ser Ala Tyr Leu Ala Glu His Gly Ile Thr Ala Val Trp Ile Pro Pro
 35 40 45
 Ala Tyr Lys Gly Thr Ser Gln Ala Asp Val Gly Tyr Gly Ala Tyr Asp
 50 55 60
 Leu Tyr Asp Leu Gly Glu Phe His Gln Lys Gly Thr Val Arg Thr Lys
 65 70 75 80
 Tyr Gly Thr Lys Gly Glu Leu Gln Ser Ala Ile Lys Ser Leu His Ser
 85 90 95
 Arg Asp Ile Asn Val Tyr Gly Asp Val Val Ile Asn His Lys Gly Gly
 100 105 110
 Ala Asp Ala Thr Glu Asp Val Thr Ala Val Glu Val Asp Pro Ala Asp
 115 120 125
 Arg Asn Arg Val Ile Ser Gly Glu His Leu Ile Lys Ala Trp Thr His
 130 135 140
 Phe His Phe Pro Gly Arg Gly Ser Thr Tyr Ser Asp Phe Lys Trp His
 145 150 155 160
 Trp Tyr His Phe Asp Gly Thr Asp Trp Asp Glu Ser Arg Lys Leu Asn
 165 170 175
 Arg Ile Tyr Lys Phe Gln Gly Lys Ala Trp Asp Trp Glu Val Ser Asn
 180 185 190
 Glu Asn Gly Asn Tyr Asp Tyr Leu Met Tyr Ala Asp Ile Asp Tyr Asp
 195 200 205
 His Pro Asp Val Ala Ala Glu Ile Lys Arg Trp Gly Thr Trp Tyr Ala
 210 215 220
 Asn Glu Leu Gln Leu Asp Gly Phe Arg Leu Asp Ala Val Lys His Ile
 225 230 235 240
 Lys Phe Ser Phe Leu Arg Asp Trp Val Asn His Val Arg Glu Lys Thr
 245 250 255

Gly Lys Glu Met Phe Thr Val Ala Glu Tyr Trp Gln Asn Asp Leu Gly
 260 265 270
 Ala Leu Glu Asn Tyr Leu Asn Lys Thr Asn Phe Asn His Ser Val Phe
 275 280 285
 Asp Val Pro Leu His Tyr Gln Phe His Ala Ala Ser Thr Gln Gly Gly
 290 295 300
 Gly Tyr Asp Met Arg Lys Leu Leu Asn Gly Thr Val Val Ser Lys His
 305 310 315 320
 Pro Leu Lys Ser Val Thr Phe Val Asp Asn His Asp Thr Gln Pro Gly
 325 330 335
 Gln Ser Leu Glu Ser Thr Val Gln Thr Trp Phe Lys Pro Leu Ala Tyr
 340 345 350
 Ala Phe Ile Leu Thr Arg Glu Ser Gly Tyr Pro Gln Val Phe Tyr Gly
 355 360 365
 Asp Met Tyr Gly Thr Lys Gly Asp Ser Gln Arg Glu Ile Pro Ala Leu
 370 375 380
 Lys His Lys Ile Glu Pro Ile Leu Lys Ala Arg Lys Gln Tyr Ala Tyr
 385 390 395 400
 Gly Ala Gln His Asp Tyr Phe Asp His His Asp Ile Val Gly Trp Thr
 405 410 415
 Arg Glu Gly Asp Ser Ser Val Ala Asn Ser Gly Leu Ala Ala Leu Ile
 420 425 430
 Thr Asp Gly Pro Gly Gly Ala Lys Arg Met Tyr Val Gly Arg Gln Asn
 435 440 445
 Ala Gly Glu Thr Trp His Asp Ile Thr Gly Asn Arg Ser Glu Pro Val
 450 455 460
 Val Ile Asn Ser Glu Gly Trp Gly Glu Phe His Val Asn Gly Gly Ser
 465 470 475 480
 Val Ser Ile Tyr Val Gln Arg
 485

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:38:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 32 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:38:

Met Lys Gln Gln Lys Arg Leu Thr Ala Arg Leu Leu Thr Leu Leu Phe
 1 5 10 15
 Ala Leu Ile Phe Leu Leu Pro His Ser Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Asn Leu
 20 25 30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:39:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 33 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:39:

Met Arg Ser Lys Thr Leu Trp Ile Ser Leu Leu Phe Ala Leu Thr Leu
1 5 10 15

Ile Phe Thr Met Ala Phe Ser Asn Met Ser Ala Gln Ala Ala Gly Lys
20 25 30

Ser

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:40:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 35 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:40:

Met Arg Ser Lys Thr Leu Trp Ile Ser Leu Leu Phe Ala Leu Thr Leu
1 5 10 15

Ile Phe Thr Met Ala Phe Ser Asn Met Ser Ala Gln Ala Ala Ala Ala
20 25 30

Ala Ala Asn
35

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:41:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 32 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:41:

Met Arg Ser Lys Thr Leu Trp Ile Ser Leu Leu Phe Ala Leu Thr Leu
1 5 10 15

Ile Phe Thr Met Ala Phe Ser Asn Met Ser Ala Gln Ala Ala Asn Leu
20 25 30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:42:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 33 base pairs

- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:42:

CACCTAATTA AAGCTTTCAC ACATTTTCAT TTT

33

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:43:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 33 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:43:

CACCTAATTA AAGCTTACAC ACATTTTCAT TTT

33

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:44:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 66 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:44:

CCGCGTAATT TCCGGAGAAC ACCTAATTAA AGCCGCAACA CATTTTCATT TTCCCGGGCG

60

CGGCAG

66

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:45:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 42 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:45:

CCGGAGAACA CCTAATTAAA GCCCTAACAC ATTTTCATTT TC

42

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:46:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 42 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:46:

CCGGAGAACA CCTAATTAAA GCCCACACAC ATTTTCATTT TC

42

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:47:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 42 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:47:

CCGGAGAACA CCTAATTAAA GCCTGCACAC ATTTTCATTT TC

42

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:48:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:48:

GATGCAGTAT TTCGAAGTGG TATA

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:49:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 26 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:49:

TGCCCCAATGA TGGCCAACAT TGGAAG

26

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:50:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:50:

CGAATGGTAT GCTCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:51:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:51:

CGAATGGTAT CGCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:52:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:52:

CGAATGGTAT AATCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:53:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:53:

CGAATGGTAT GATCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:54:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:54:

CGAATGGTAT CACCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:55:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:55:

CGAATGGTAT AAACCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:56:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:56:

CGAATGGTAT CCGCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:57:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:57:

CGAATGGTAT TCTCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:58:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:58:

CGAATGGTAC ACTCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:59:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs

- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:59:

CGAATGGTAT GTTCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:60:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:60:

CGAATGGTAT TGTCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:61:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:61:

CGAATGGTAT CAACCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:62:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:62:

CGAATGGTAT GAACCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:63:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:63:

CGAATGGTAT GGTCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:64:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:64:

CGAATGGTAT ATTCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:65:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:65:

CGAATGGTAT TTTCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:66:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:66:

CGAATGGTAC TGGCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:67:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:67:

CGAATGGTAT TATCCCAATG ACGG

24

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:68:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 24 base pairs

(B) TYPE: nucleic acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS: single

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:68:

CCGTCATTGG GACTACGTAC CATT

24

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A mutant alpha-amylase that is the expression product of a mutated DNA sequence encoding an alpha-amylase, the mutated DNA sequence being derived from a precursor alpha-amylase by the deletion or substitution of one or more oxidizable amino acids selected from the group consisting of methionine, tryptophan, cysteine and tyrosine, in the precursor alpha-amylase.
2. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1 wherein the oxidizable amino acid to be deleted or substituted is a methionine in the precursor alpha-amylase equivalent to +8, +15, +197, +256, +304, +366 or +438 in *Bacillus licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
3. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 2 wherein the substitution or deletion is at a position equivalent to M + 197 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
4. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 3 wherein an amino acid selected from the group consisting of alanine, isoleucine, threonine and cysteine is substituted for methionine at a position equivalent to +197 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
5. The mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 4 which is M197T.
6. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 2 wherein the substitution or deletion is at a position equivalent to M+ 15 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
7. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 6 wherein an amino acid selected from the group consisting of leucine, threonine, asparagine, aspartate, serine, valine and isoleucine is substituted for methionine at a position equivalent to +15 in B.

licheniformis alpha-amylase.

8. The mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 7 which is M15L.
9. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1 wherein the oxidizable amino acid to be deleted or substituted is a tryptophan in the precursor alpha-amylase equivalent to any tryptophan in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase as shown in Seq ID No 32.
10. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 9 wherein the substitution or deletion is at a position equivalent to W138 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
11. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1 comprising at least two substitutions in a precursor alpha-amylase at positions equivalent to +15, +138 or +197 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
12. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1 wherein the precursor alpha-amylase is a *Bacillus* alpha-amylase.
13. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 12 wherein the precursor is selected from the group *B. licheniformis*, *B. stearothermophilus*, and *B. amyloliquefaciens*.
14. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 13 wherein the precursor is *Bacillus licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
15. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1 wherein the precursor alpha-amylase is a fungal alpha-amylase.

16. DNA encoding the mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1.
17. Expression vectors encoding the DNA of Claim 16.
18. Host cells transformed with the expression vector of Claim 17.
19. An alpha-amylase comprising an amino acid sequence corresponding to Seq ID No 37 or a derivative thereof.
20. DNA encoding the alpha-amylase of Claim 19.
21. Expression vectors encoding the DNA of Claim 20.
22. Host cells transformed with the expression vector of Claim 21.
23. A mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1 having altered oxidative stability comprising a substitution of a different amino acid at a position equivalent to M197 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
24. The mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 23 which is M197T.
25. A mutant alpha-amylase having enhanced thermal stability, or an enhanced pH performance profile or enhanced oxidative stability, the mutant comprising a substitution of a different amino acid at a position equivalent to M15 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.

26. The mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 25 which is M15L.
27. A detergent composition comprising a mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1.
28. A detergent composition of Claim 27 wherein the mutation is at a position equivalent to M197 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
29. A detergent composition of Claim 28 which is a liquid, gel or granular composition.
30. A detergent composition of Claim 27 further comprising one or more additional enzyme.
31. A starch liquefying composition comprising a mutant alpha-amylase of Claim 1.
32. A starch liquefying composition of Claim 31 wherein the mutation is at a position equivalent to M15 in *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase.
33. A method of liquefying a granular starch slurry from either a wet or dry milling process at a pH of from about 4 to less than about 6 comprising:
 - a) adding an effective amount of an alpha-amylase mutant of Claim 1 to the slurry;
 - b) optionally adding an effective amount of an antioxidant to the slurry; and
 - c) reacting the slurry for an appropriate time and at an appropriate temperature to liquefy the starch.

34. An improved method of liquefying a granular starch slurry from either a wet or dry milling process at a pH of from about 4 to less than about 6 comprising:

- a) adding an effective amount of an alpha-amylase of Claim 9 to the slurry;
- b) optionally adding an effective amount of an antioxidant to the slurry; and
- c) reacting the slurry for an appropriate time and at an appropriate temperature to liquefy the starch.

10 30 50
AGCTTGAAGAAGTGAAGAAGCAGAGAGGCTATTGAATAAATGAGTAGAAAGCGCCATATC

70 90 110
GGCGCTTTTCTTTTGAAGAAAATATAGGGAAAATGGTACTTGTTAAAAATTTCGGAATAT

130 150 170
TTATACAACATCATATGTTTCACATTGAAAGGGGAGGAGAATCATGAAACAACAAAAACG
M K Q Q K R

190 210 230
GCTTTACGCCCCGATTGCTGACGCTGTTATTTGCGCTCATCTTCTTGCTGCCTCATTCTGC
L Y A R L L T L L F A L I F L L P H S A

250 270 290
AGCAGCGGCGGCAAATCTTAATGGGACGCTGATGCAGTATTTTGAATGGTACATGCCCAA
A A A A N L N G T L M Q Y F E W Y M P N

310 330 350
TGACGGCCAAACATTGGAAGCGTTTGCAAAACGACTCGGCATATTTGGCTGAACACGGTAT
D G Q H W K R L Q N D S A Y L A E H G I

370 390 410
TACTGCCGTCTGGATTCCCCCGGCATATAAGGGAACGAGCCAAGCGGATGTGGGCTACGG
T A V W I P P A Y K G T S Q A D V G Y G

430 450 470
TGCTTACGACCTTTATGATTTAGGGGAGTTTCATCAAAAAGGGACGGTTCGGACAAAAGTA
A Y D L Y D L G E F H Q K G T V R T K Y

490 510 530
CGGCACAAAAGGAGAGCTGCAATCTGCGATCAAAAGTCTTCATTCCCGCGACATTAACGT
G T K G E L Q S A I K S L H S R D I N V

550 570 590
TTACGGGGATGTGGTCATCAACCACAAAGGCGGCGCTGATGCGACCGAAGATGTAACCGC
Y G D V V I N H K G G A D A T E D V T A

610 630 650
GGTTGAAGTCGATCCCGCTGACCGCAACCGCGTAATTTTCAGGAGAACACCTAATTAAAGC
V E V D P A D R N R V I S G E H L I K A

670 690 710
CTGGACACATTTTCATTTTCCGGGGCGCGGCAGCACATACAGCGATTTTAAATGGCATTG
W T H F H F P G R G S T Y S D F K W H W

730 750 770
GTACCATTTTGACGGAACCGATTGGGACGAGTCCCGAAAGCTGAACCGCATCTATAAGTT
Y H F D G T D W D E S R K L N R I Y K F

790 810 830
TCAAGGAAAGGCTTGGGATTGGGAAGTTTCCAATGAAAACGGCAACTATGATTATTTGAT
Q G K A W D W E V S N E N G N Y D Y L M

FIG. 1A

850 870 890
GTATGCCGACATCGATTATGACCATCCTGATGTCGCAGCAGAAATTAAGAGATGGGGCAC
Y A D I D Y D H P D V A A E I K R W G T

910 930 950
TTGGTATGCCAATGAACTGCAATTGGACGGTTTCCGTCTTGATGCTGTCAAACACATTAA
W Y A N E L Q L D G F R L D A V K H I K

970 990 1010
ATTTTCTTTTTGCGGGATTGGGTTAATCATGTCAGGGAAAAACGGGGAAGGAAATGTT
F S F L R D W V N H V R E K T G K E M F

1030 1050 1070
TACGGTAGCTGAATATTGGCAGAATGACTTGGGCGCTCTGGAAAACTATTTGAACAAAAC
T V A E Y W Q N D L G A L E N Y L N K T

1090 1110 1130
AAATTTTAATCATTCAGTGTTTGACGTGCCGCTTCATTATCAGTTCCATGCTGCATCGAC
N F N H S V F D V P L H Y Q F H A A S T

1150 1170 1190
ACAGGGAGGCGGCTATGATATGAGGAAATTGCTGAACGGTACGGTCGTTTCCAAGCATCC
Q G G G Y D M R K L L N G T V V S K H P

1210 1230 1250
GTTGAAATCGGTTACATTTGTCGATAACCATGATACACAGCCGGGGCAATCGCTTGAGTC
L K S V T F V D N H D T Q P G Q S L E S

1270 1290 1310
GACTGTCCAAACATGGTTTAAGCCGCTTGCTTACGCTTTTATTCTCACAAGGGAATCTGG
T V Q T W F K P L A Y A F I L T R E S G

1330 1350 1370
ATACCCTCAGGTTTTCTACGGGGATATGTACGGGACGAAAGGAGACTCCCAGCGCGAAAT
Y P Q V F Y G D M Y G T K G D S Q R E I

1390 1410 1430
TCCTGCCTTGAAACACAAAATTGAACCGATCTTAAAACGCAGAAAACAGTATGCGTACGG
P A L K H K I E P I L K A R K Q Y A Y G

1450 1470 1490
AGCACAGCATGATTATTTGACCACCATGACATTGTCGGCTGGACAAGGGAAGGCGACAG
A Q H D Y F D H H D I V G W T R E G D S

1510 1530 1550
CTCGGTTGCAAATTCAGGTTTGGCGGCATTAATAACAGACGGACCCGGTGGGGCAAAGCG
S V A N S G L A A L I T D G P G G A K R

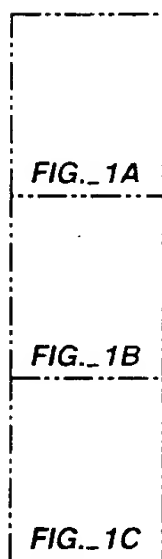
1570 1590 1610
AATGTATGTCGGCCGGCAAACGCCGGTGAGACATGGCATGACATTACCGGAAACCGTTC
M Y V G R Q N A G E T W H D I T G N R S

1630 1650 1670
GGAGCCGGTTGTCATCAATTCCGAAGGCTGGGGAGAGTTTCACGTAAACGGCGGGTCCGGT
E P V V I N S E G W G E F H V N G G S V

FIG. 1B

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1690 1710 1730
TTCAATTTATGTTCAAAGATAGAAGAGCAGAGAGGACGGATTTCTGAAGGAAATCCGTT
S I Y V Q R
1750 1770 1790
TTTTTATTTTGCCCGTCTTATAAATTTCTTTGATTACATTTTATAATTAATTTTAACAAA
1810 1830 1850
GTGTCATCAGCCCTCAGGAAGGACTTGCTGACAGTTTGAATCGCATAGGTAAGGCGGGGA
1870 1890 1910
TGAAATGGCAACGTTATCTGATGTAGCAAAGAAAGCAAATGTGTCGAAAATGACGGTATC
1930 1950
GCGGGTGATCAATCATCCTGAGACTGTGACGGATGAATTGAAAAAGCT

FIG._1C**FIG._1**

10 30 50
ANLNGTLMQYFEWYMPNDGOHWKRLQNDSAYLAEHGITAVWIPPAYKGT SQADVGYGAYD

70 90 110
LYDLGEFHQKGTVRTKYGTKGELQSAIKSLHSRDINVYGDVVINHKG GADATEDVTAVEV

130 150 170
DPADRN RVISGEHLIKAWTHFHFPGRGSTYSDFKWHWYHFDGTDWDESRKLNRIYKFQ GK

190 210 230
AWDWEVSNENGNYDYLMYADIDYDHPDVAAEIKRWGTWYANELQLDGFRLDAVKHIKFSF

250 270 290
LRDWVNHVREKTGKEMFTVAEYWQNDLGALENYLNKTNFNHVSF DVPLHYQFHAASTQGG

310 330 350
GYDMRKLLNGTVVSKHPLKSVTFVDNHDTQPGQSLESTVQTWFKPLAYAFILTRESGY PQ

370 390 410
VFYGD MYGTKGDSQREIPALKHKIEPILKARKQYAYGAQH DYFDHHDIVGWTREGDSSVA

430 450 470
NSGLAALITDGP GGAKRMYVGRONAGETWHDITGNRSEPVVINSEGWGEFHVNGGSVSIY

VQR

FIG. 2

Am-Lich = <i>B. Licheniformis</i>	Am-Amylo = <i>B. amyloliquefaciens</i>	Am-Stearo = <i>B. stearothermophilus</i>
1 Am-Lich Am-Amylo Am-Stearo	1MKQQ MRGRGNMIQKVLTHRIIRKGMF	1SAAAPITK FCPTGRHAKA
61 Am-Lich Am-Amylo Am-Stearo	61 QHWKRLQND QHWKRLQND TLWTKVANE	61 AANLNGTLMQ TSVNGTLMQ AAPFNGTMMQ
121 Am-Lich Am-Amylo Am-Stearo	121 AYLAHEGITA EHLSDIGITA NNLSSLGITA	121 SQADVGYGAY SQSDNGYGPY SRSDVGYGVY
181 Am-Lich Am-Amylo Am-Stearo	181 LHSRDINVYG LHSRNQVYVG AQAAGMQVYA	181 DATEDVTAVE DATEDVTAVE DGTEWWDAVE
197 Am-Lich Am-Amylo Am-Stearo	197 YDFKWHWHYH YDFKWHWHYH YDFKWHWHYH	197 NENGNVDYLM SENGNVDYLM TENGNVDYLM
241 Am-Lich Am-Amylo Am-Stearo	241 YADIDYDHPD YADVDYDHPD YADLMDHPE	241 VREKTGKEMF VRQATGKEMF VRSQTGKPLF
301 Am-Lich Am-Amylo Am-Stearo	301 GALENYLNKT GKLENYLNKT NKLNHYITKT	301 OQGGYDMRKL OQGGYDMRRL SGGAFDMRTL

FIG.-3A

Am-Lich	361	LKSVTFVDNH	DTQPGOSLES	TVQTWFKPLA	YAFILTRESG	YPQVFYGDY	GTKGDSQREI	377
Am-Amylo		EKAVTFVENH	DTQPGOSLES	TVQTWFKPLA	YAFILTRESG	YPQVFYGDY	GTKGTSPKEI	420
Am-Stearo		TLAVTFVDNH	DTNPAKR..CS	HGRPWFKPLA	YAFILTRQEG	YPCVFYGDY	GI.....PQYNI	
Am-Lich	421	PALKHKIEPI	LKARKQYAYG	AQHDYFDHHD	IVGWTREGDS	SVANSGLAAL	ITDGPGGAKR	437
Am-Amylo		PSLKDNIPI	LKARKEYAYG	PQHDYIDHPD	VIGWTREGDS	SAAKSGLAAL	ITDGPGGSKR	480
Am-Stearo		PSLKSIDPL	LIARRDYAYG	TQHDYLDHSD	IIGWTREGVT	EKPGSGLAAL	ITDGAGRSKW	
Am-Lich	481	MYVGRQNGE	TWHDITGNRS	EPVVINSEGW	GEFHVNGGSV	SIYVQR.....		540
Am-Amylo		MYAGLKNAGE	TWYDITGNRS	DTVKIGSDGW	GEFHVNDGSV	SIYVQK.....		
Am-Stearo		MYVKGQHAGK	VFYDLTGNRS	DTVTINSDGW	GEFKVNGGSV	SVWVPRKTTV	STIARPITTR	
Am-Lich	541							
Am-Amylo								
Am-Stearo		PWTGEFVRWH	EPRLVAWP.					

FIG._3B

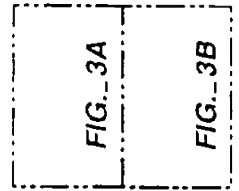


FIG._3

10 30 50
ANLNGTLMQYFEWYMPNDGOHWKRLQND SAYLAEHGITAVWIPPAYKGT SQADVGYGAYD

70 90 110
LYDLGEFHQKGTVRTKYGTKGELQSAIKSLHSRDINVYGDVVINHKG GADATEDVTAVEV

130 150 170
DPADRN RVISGEHLIKAWTHFHFPGRGSTYSDFKWHWYHFDGTDWDESRKLNRIYKFQ GK

190 210 230
AWDWEVSNENGNYDYLTYADIDYDHPDVAAEIKRWGTWYANELQLDGFRLDAVKHIKFSF

250 270 290
LRDWVNHVREKTGKEMFTVAEYWQNDLGALENYLNKTNFNH SVFDVPLHYQFHAASTQGG

310 330 350
GYDMRKLLNGTVVSKHPLKSVTFVDNHDTQPGQSLESTVQTWFKPLAYAFILTRESGYPO

370 390 410
VFYGD MYGTKGDSQREIPALKHKIEPILKARKQYAYGAQH DYFDHHDIVGWTREGDSSVA

430 450 470
NSGLAALITDGP GGAKRM YVGRONAGETWHDITGNRSEPVVINSEG WGEFHVNGGSVSIY

VQR

FIG._4a

AAAA

14 34 54
ANLNGTLMQYFEWYMPNDGQHWKRLQND SAYLAEHGITAVWIPPAYKGTSQADVGYGAYD

74 94 114
LYDLGEFHOKGTVRTKYGTKGELOSAIKSLHSRDINVYGDVVINHKG GADATEDVTAVEV

134 154 174
DPADRN RVISGEHLIKAWTHFHFPGRGSTYSDFKWHWYHFDGTDWDESRKLNRIYKFQ GK

194 214 234
AWDWEVSNENGN YDYL MYADIDYDHPDVA AEIKRWGTWYANELQLDGFRLDAVKHIKFSF

254 274 294
LRDWVNVHVREKTGKEMFTVAEYWQNDLGALENYLNKTNFNHSVFDVPLHYQFHAASTQGG

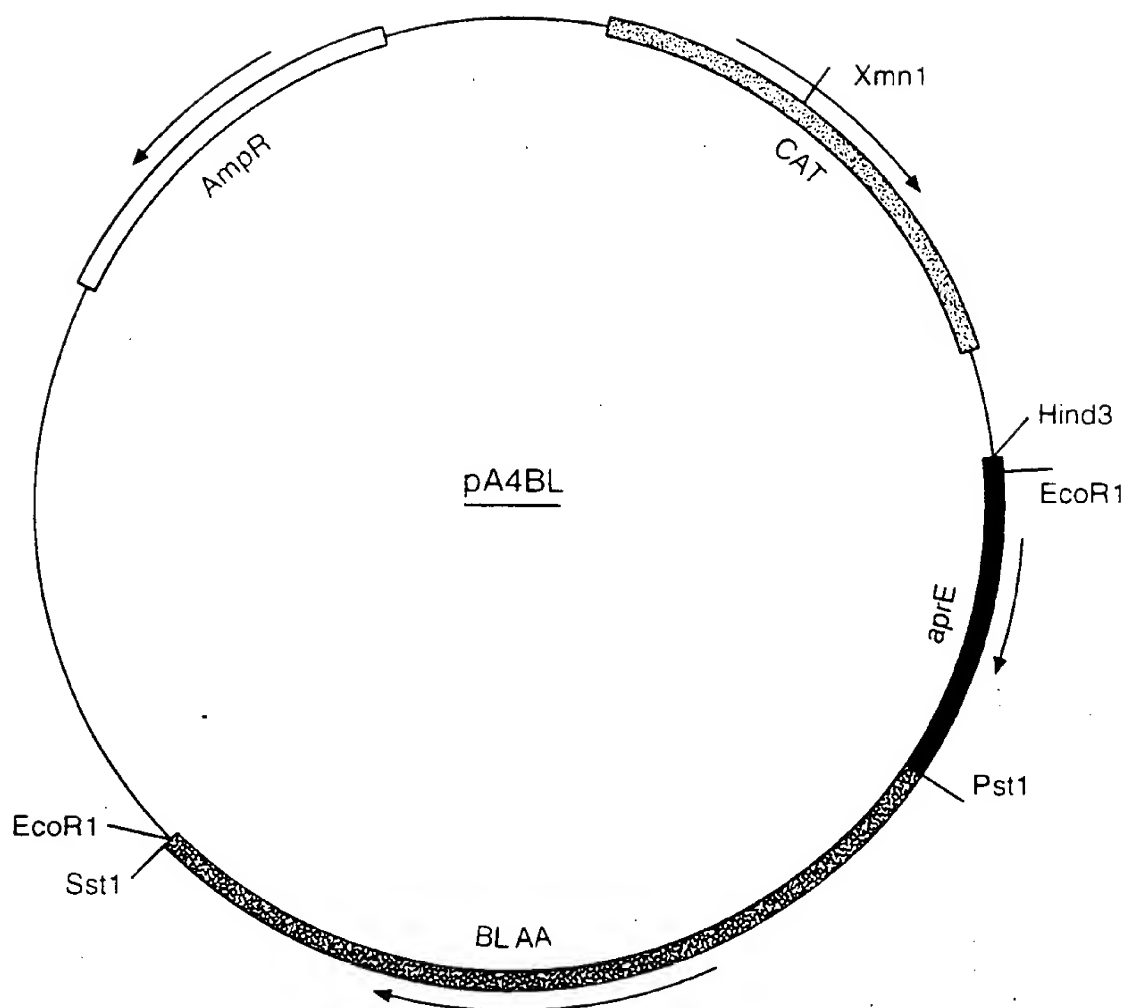
314 334 354
GYDMRKLLNGTVVSKHPLKSVTFVDNHDTQPGQSLESTVQTWFKPLAYAFILTRESGYPO

374 394 414
VFYGD MYGTKGDSQREIPALKHKIEPILKARKQYAYGAQH DYFDHHDIVGWTREGDSSVA

434 454 474
NSGLAALITDGP GGAKRMYVGRONAGETWHDITGNRSEP VVINSEGWGEFHVNGGSVSIY

VQR

- **FIG._4b**

**FIG._5**

SIGNAL SEQUENCE - MATURE PROTEIN JUNCTIONS IN:*B.licheniformis* alpha-amylase.

MKQOKRLTARLLTLLFALIFLLPHSA^(PstI)AAA[ANL.....
 N-terminus

B.subtilis alkaline protease aprE.

MRSKTLWISLLFALTLLIFTMAFSNMSAQA^(PstI)AGKS.....
 N-terminus

B.licheniformis alpha-amylase in pA4BL.

MRSKTLWISLLFALTLLIFTMAFSNMSAQA^(PstI)AAAAAN.
 N-terminus

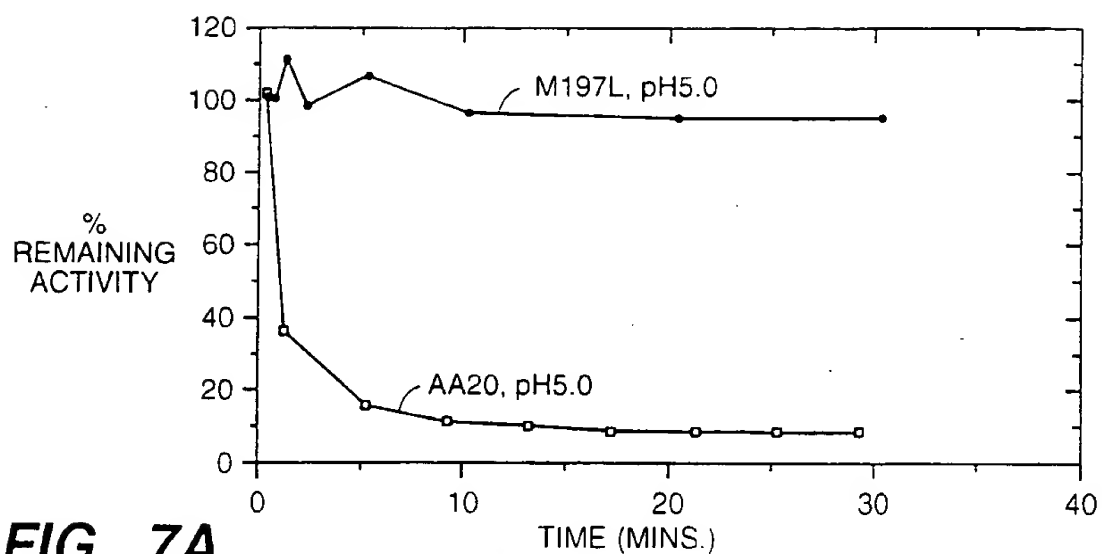
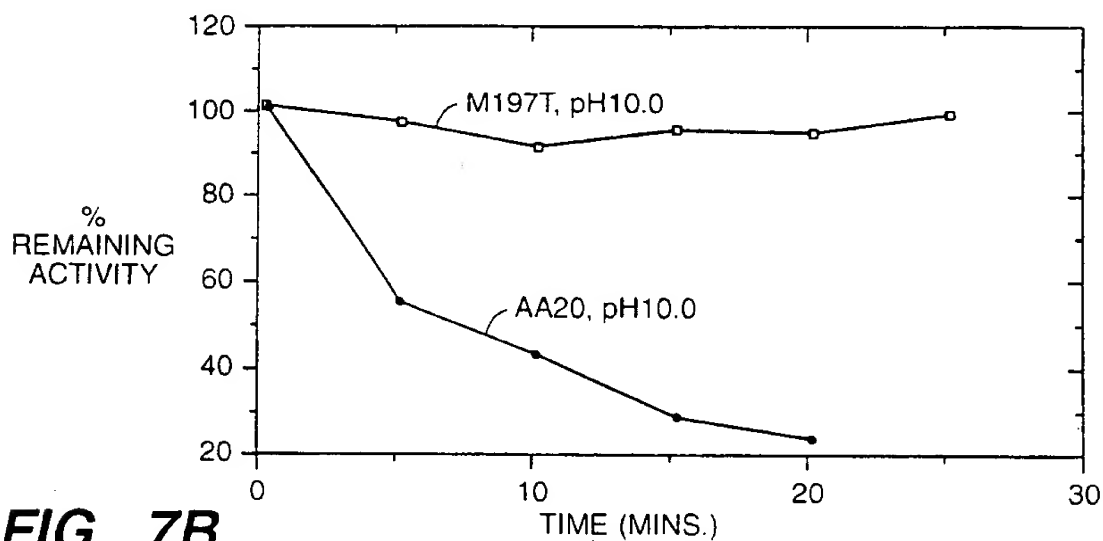
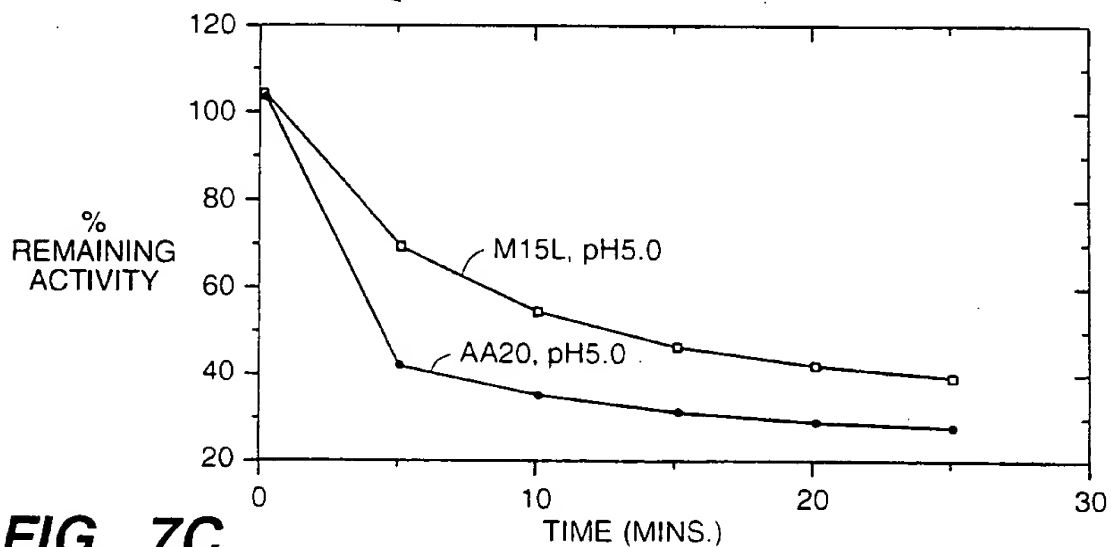
B.licheniformis alpha-amylase in pBLapr.

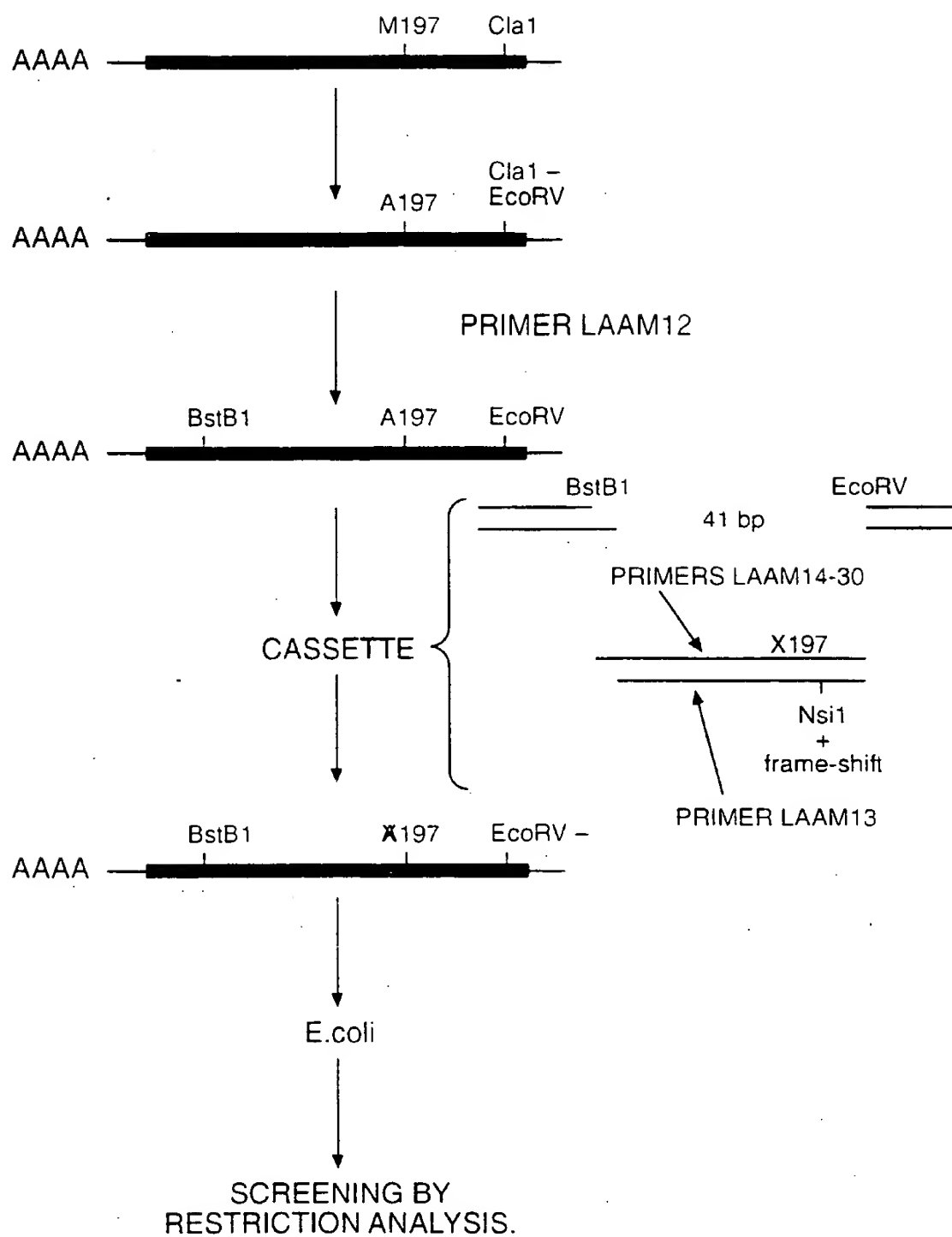
MRSKTLWISLLFALTLLIFTMAFSNMSAQA[ANL.....
 N-terminus

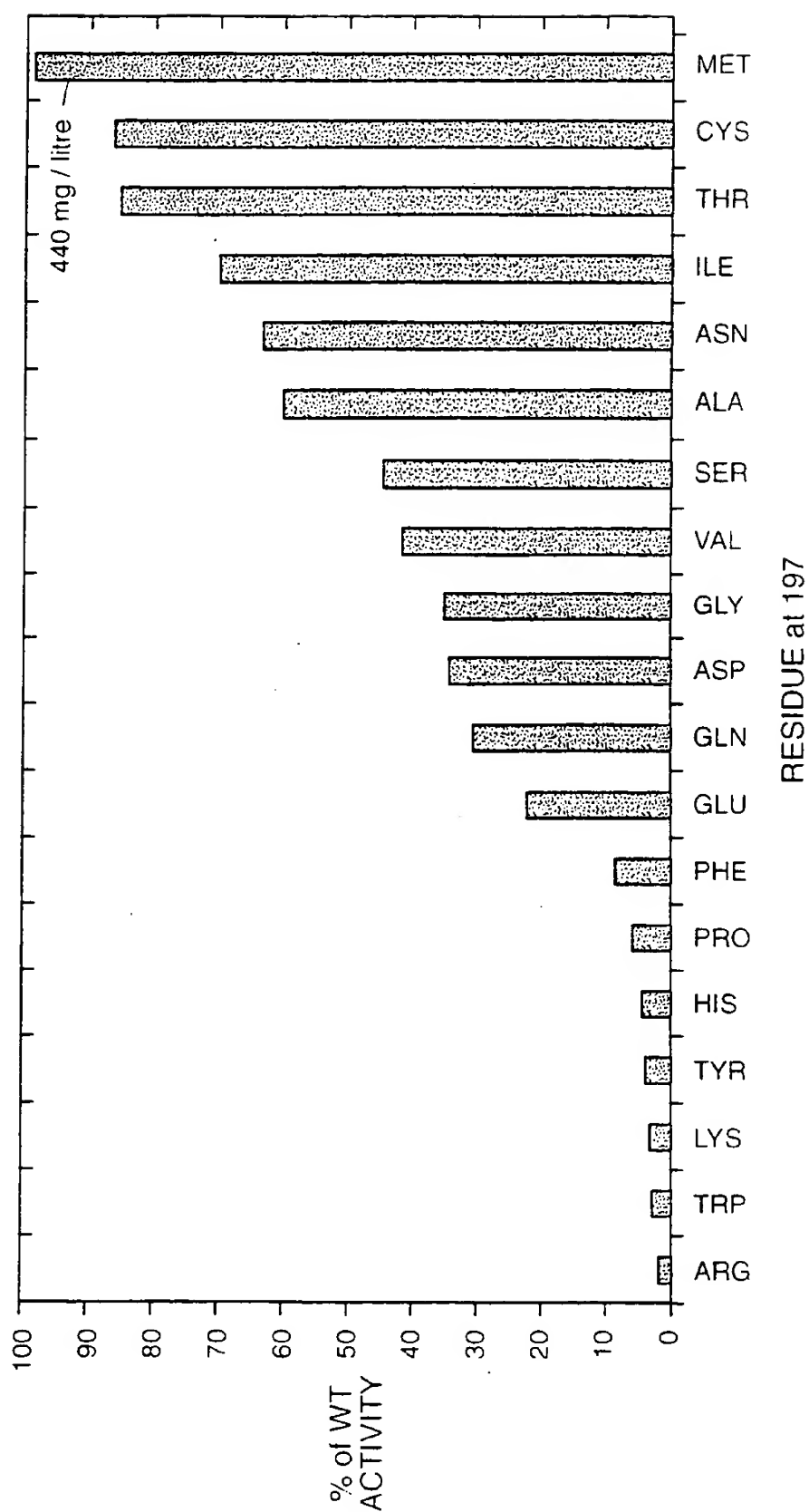
(PstI) indicates the site of the restriction site in the gene.
 ↓

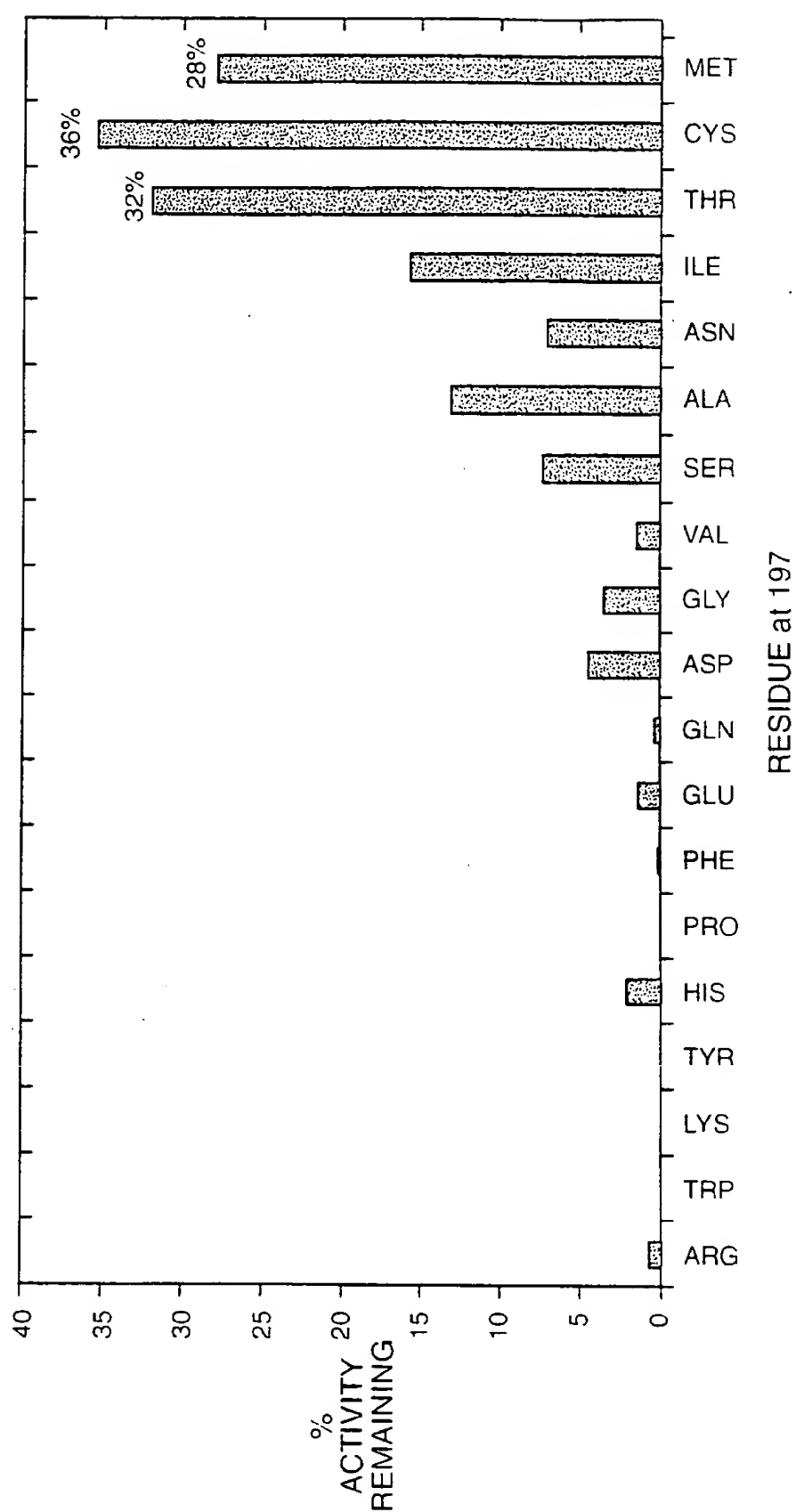
[N-terminus indicates cleavage site between signal peptide and secreted protein.

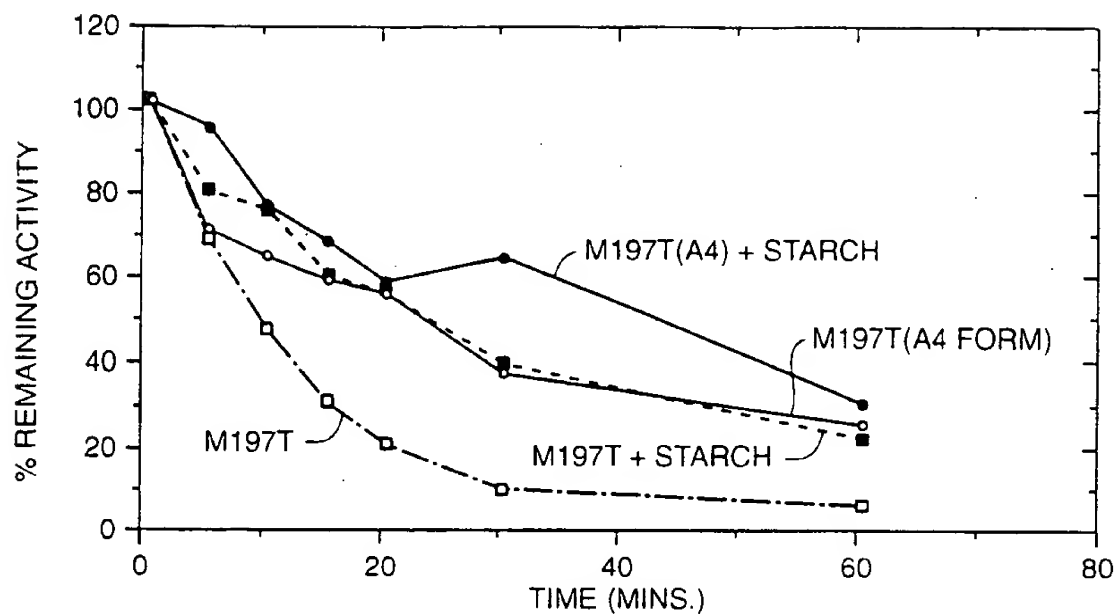
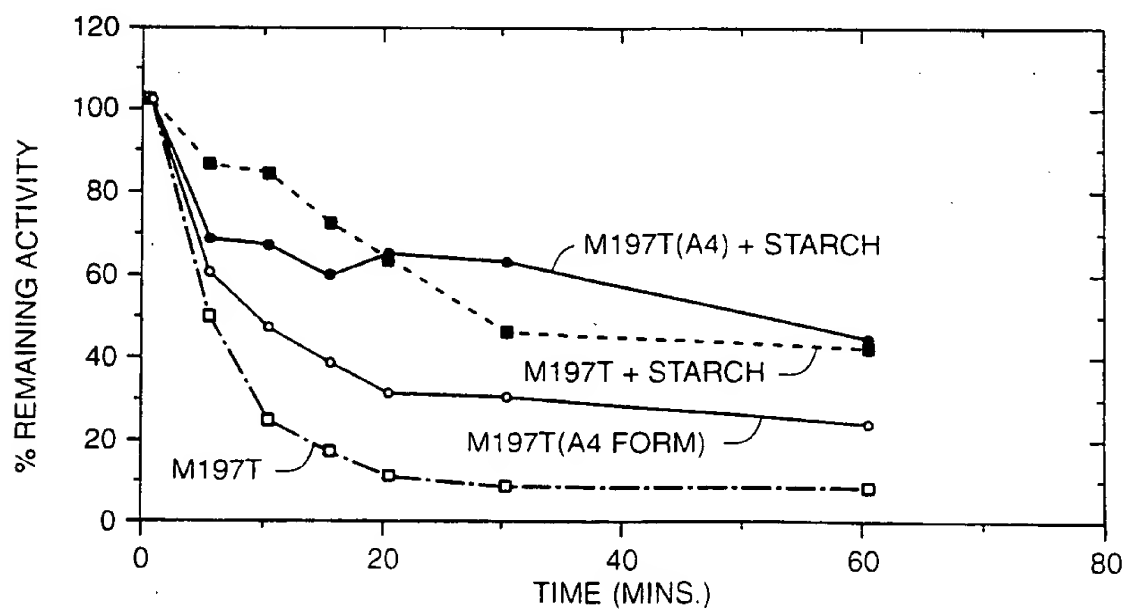
FIG. 6

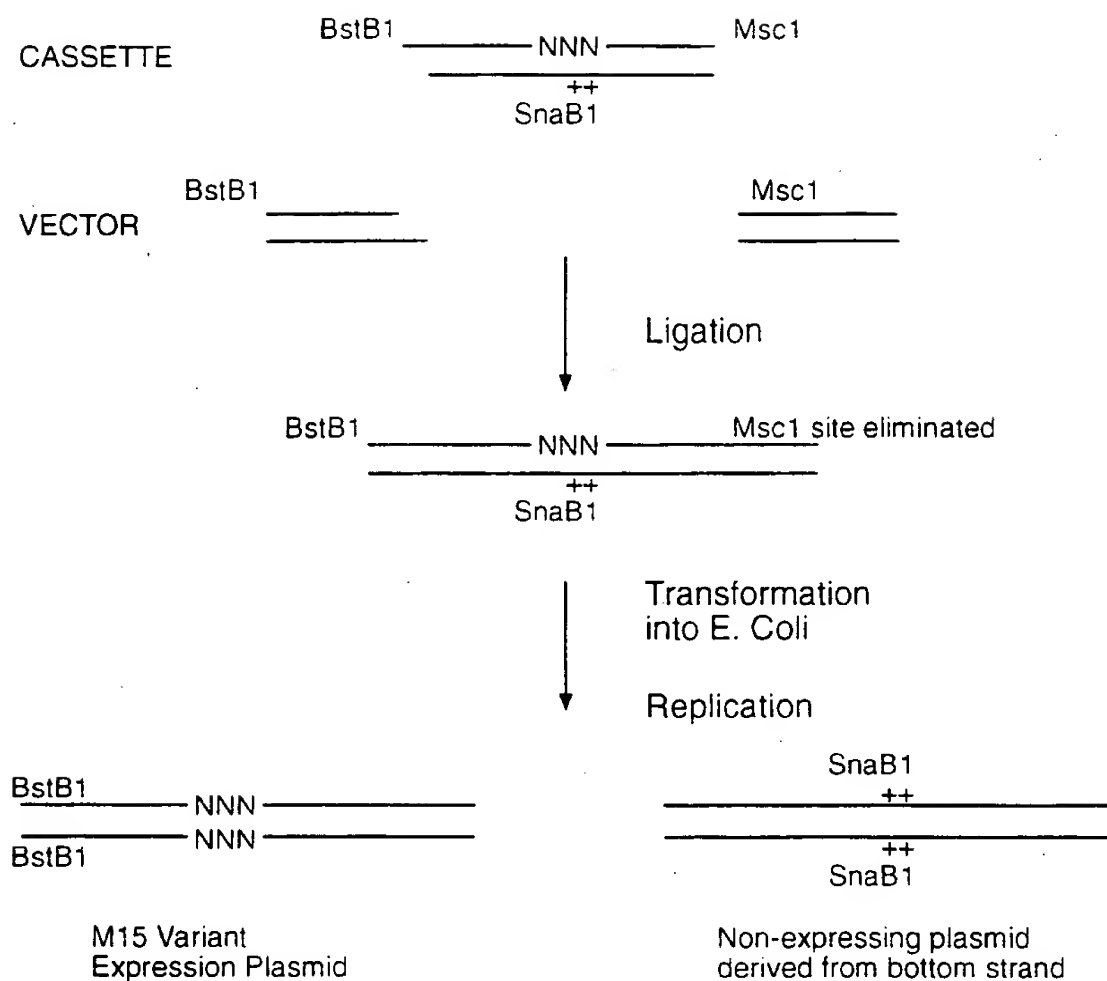
**FIG. 7A****FIG. 7B****FIG. 7C**

**FIG._8**

**FIG. 9**

**FIG. 10**

**FIG. 11A****FIG. 11B**

**FIG. 12**

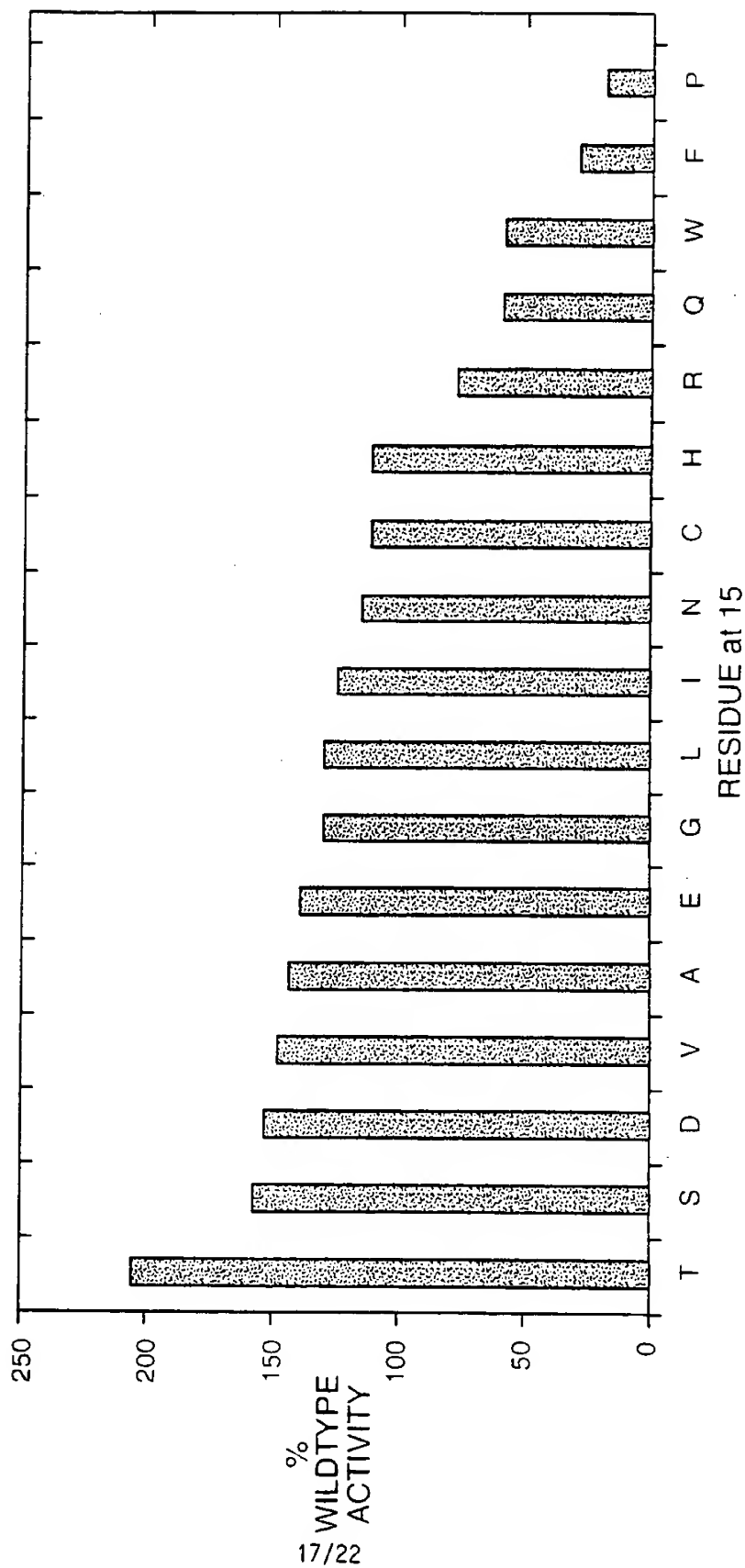


FIG. 13

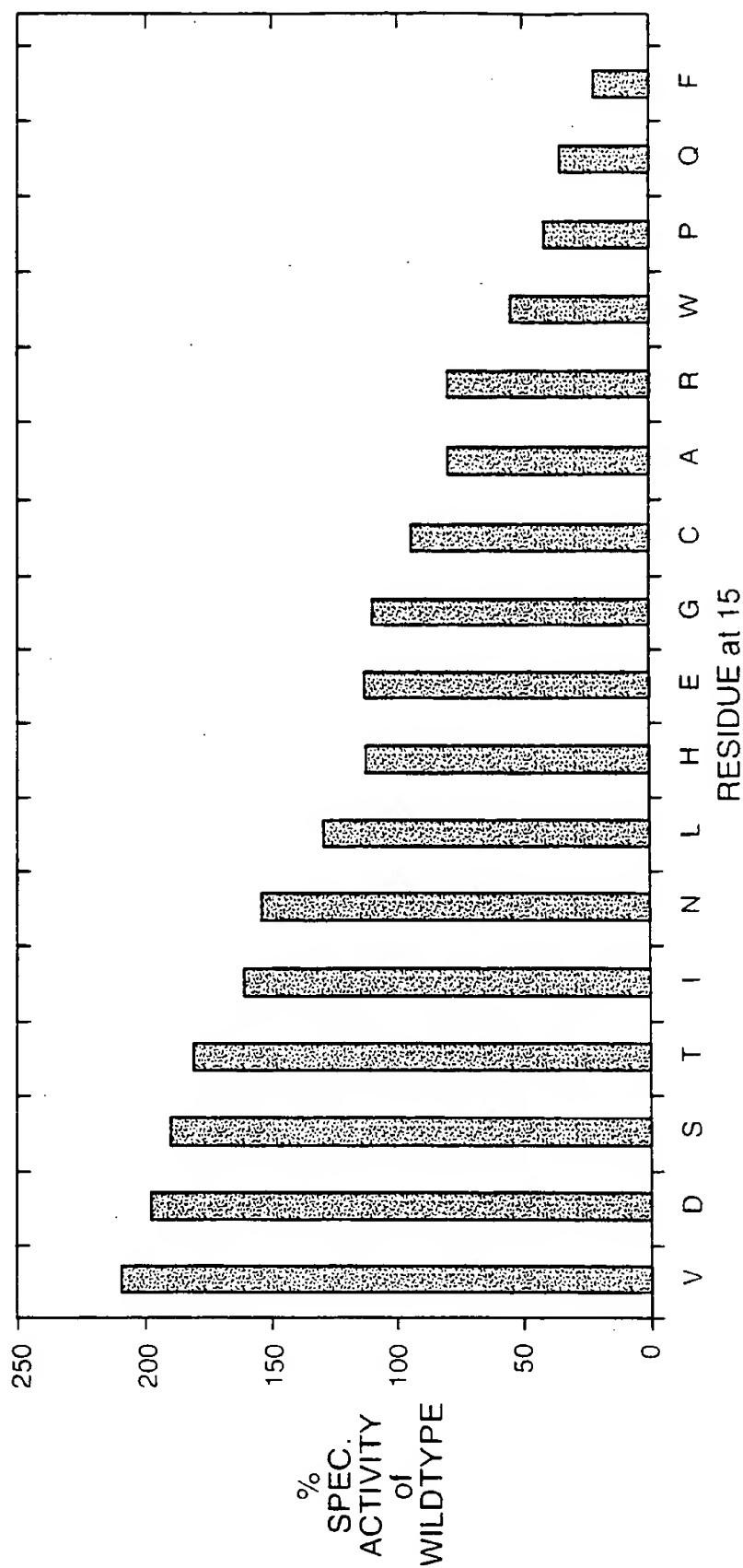


FIG. 14

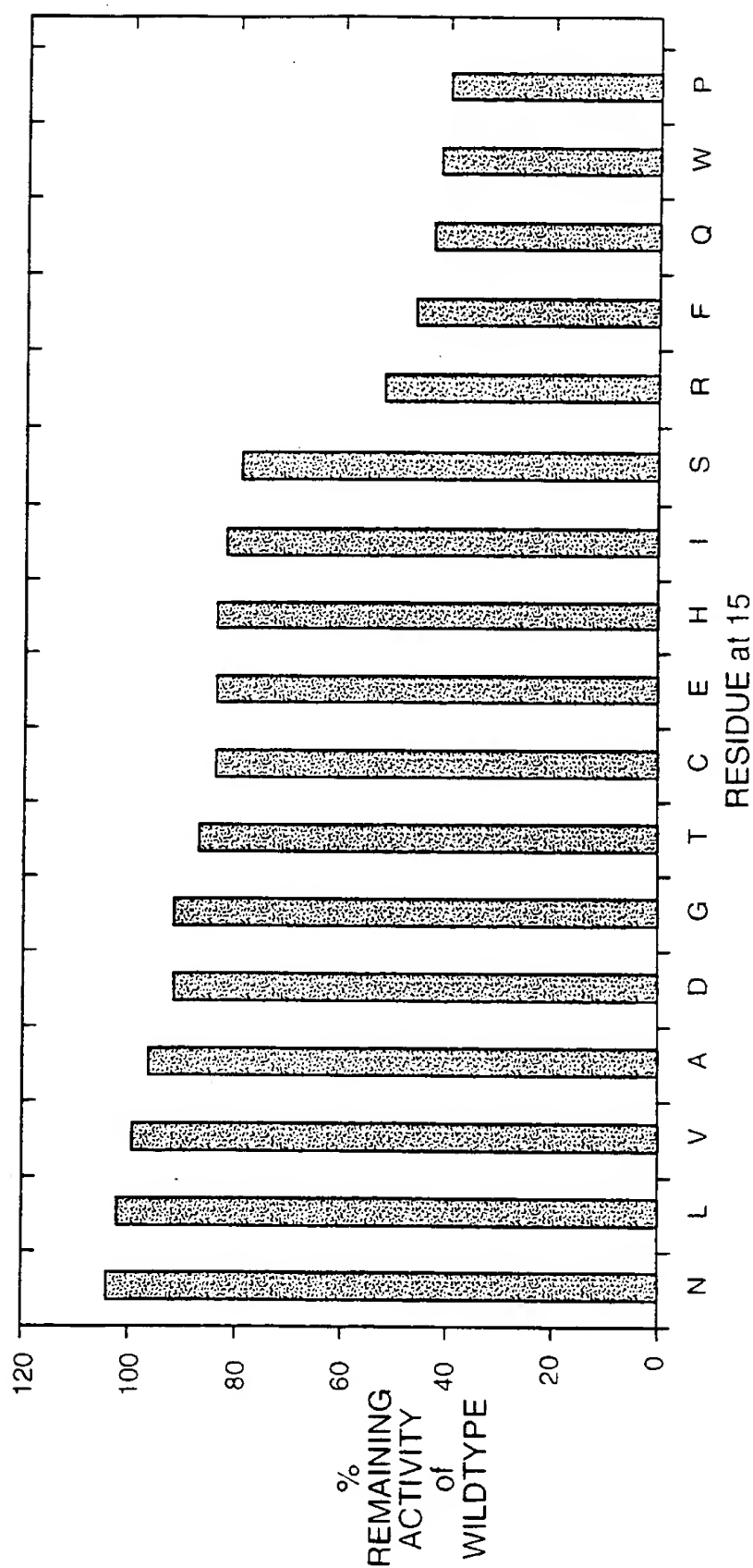


FIG. 15

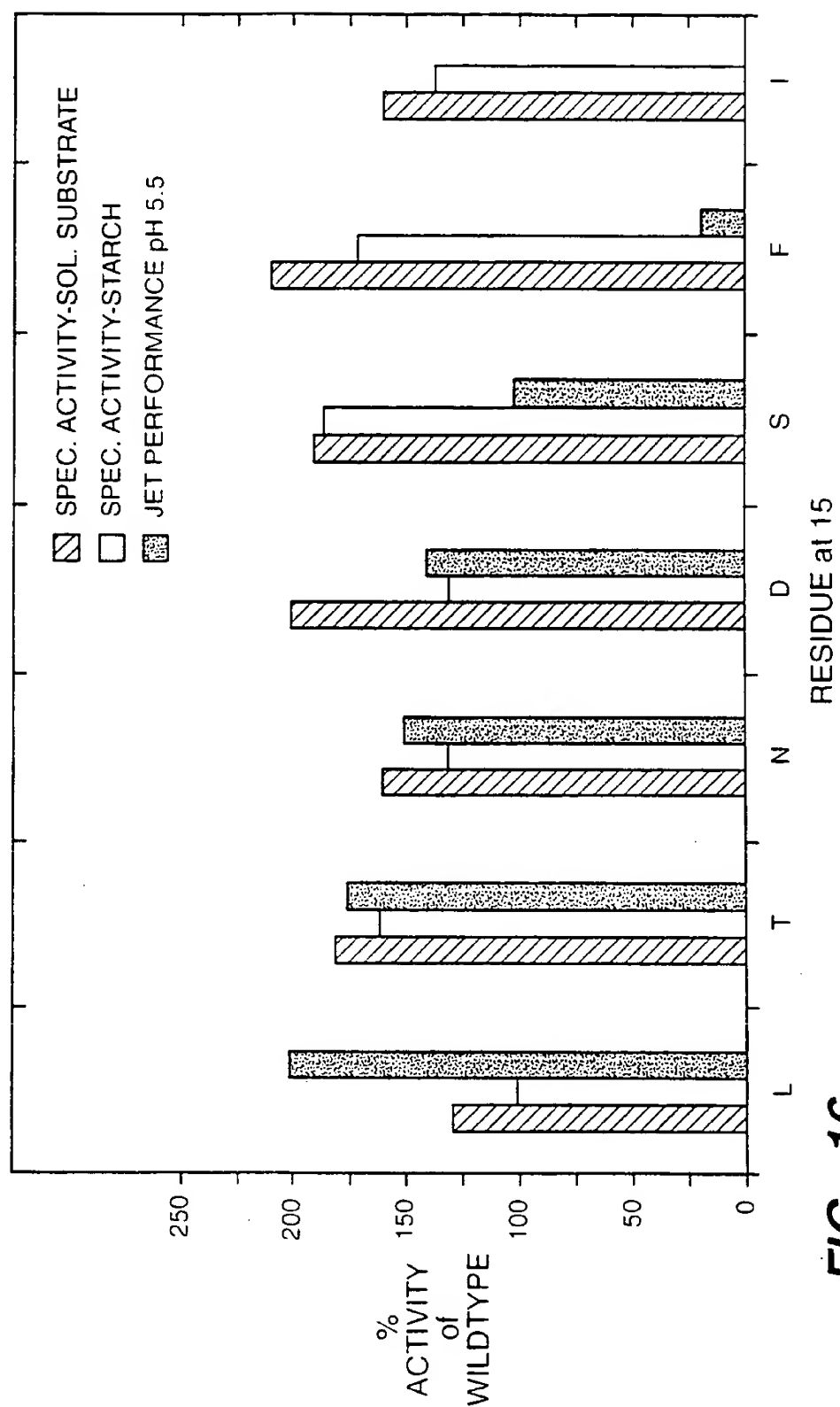
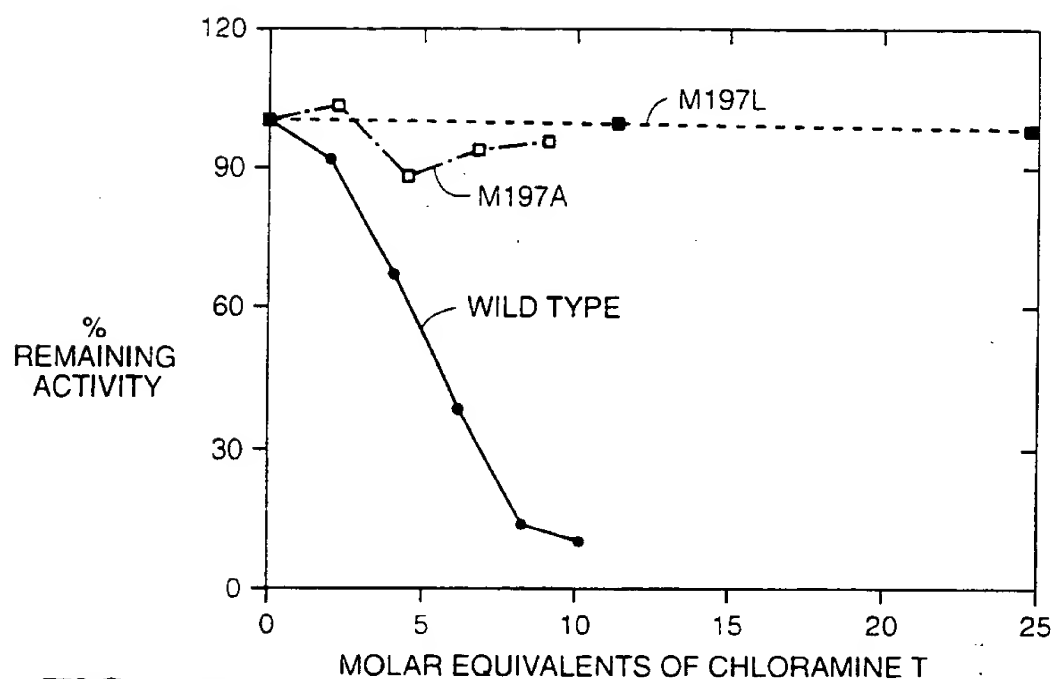
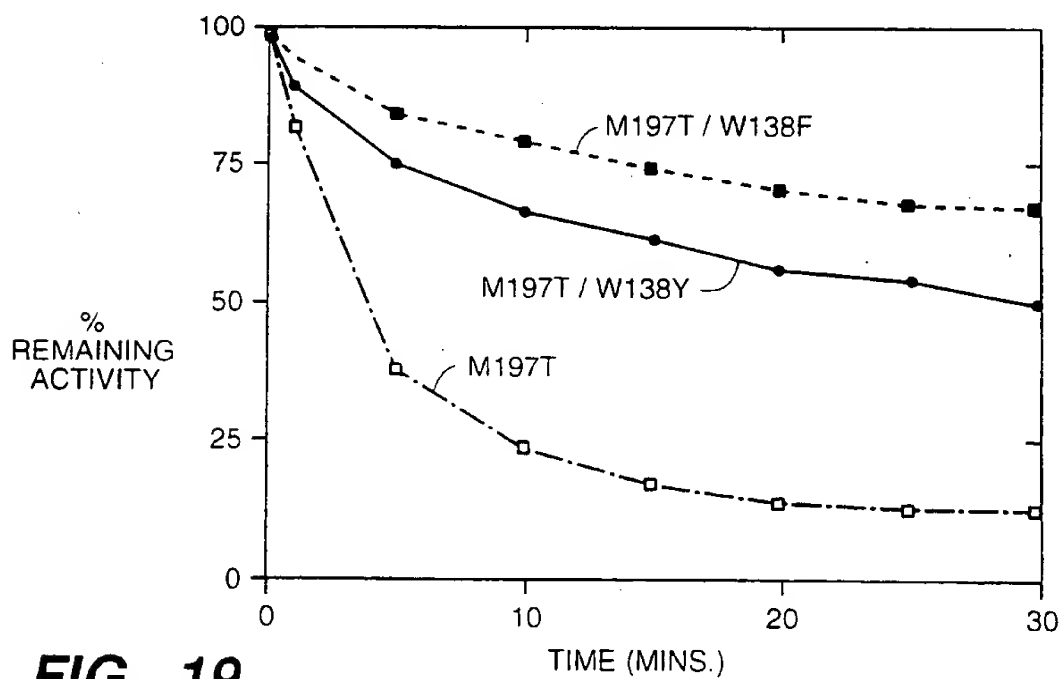


FIG. 16

**FIG. 17****FIG. 19**

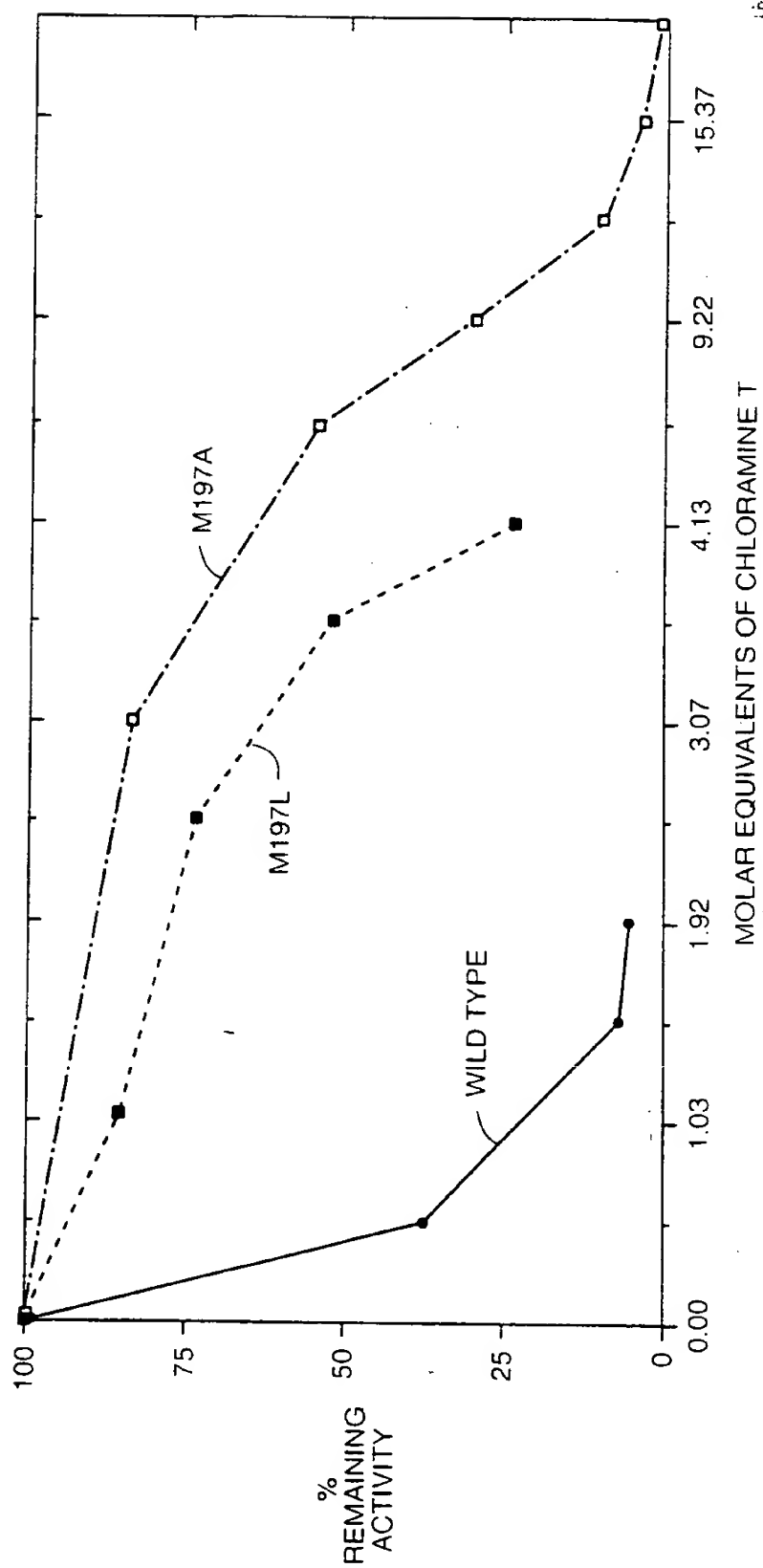


FIG. 18

1
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 94/01553

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC : C12N 9/28, C12N 15/56, C11D 3/386

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC : C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

BIOSIS, SCISEARCH

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	BIOTECHNOLOGY, Volume 10, 1992, Philippe Joyet et al, "Hyperthermostable variants of a highly thermostable alpha-amylase", page 1579 - page 1583, see fig 4 and page 1582 --	1-34
Y	EP, A2, 0410498 (GIST-BROCADES N.V.), 30 January 1991 (30.01.91), page 4, line 50 - page 6, claims --	1-34
A	FR, A1, 2676456 (INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE AGRONOMIQUE), 20 November 1992 (20.11.92), see example 3 --	1

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
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"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

10 June 1994

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Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority/Authorized officer



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CARL-OLOF GUSTAVSSON

2
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 94/01553

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	Dialog Information Services, File 34, SciSearch Dialog accession no. 11267001, Bealinkelly F et al "Studies on the thermostability of the alpha-amylase of bacillus-caldovelox". Applied microbiology and biotechnology, 1991, V36, N3 (DEC), p 332-336 --	1
Y	The Journal of Biological Chemistry, Volume 260, No 11, June 1985, David A Estell et al, "Engineering an Enzyme by Sitedirected Mutagenesis to Be Resistant to Chemical Oxidation", page 6518 - page 6521, see fig 2 and page 6520 right column --	1-34
A	WO, A1, 9116423 (NOVO NORDISK A/S), 31 October 1991 (31.10.91), page 2, claims 1-2 --	1-34
A	Dialog Information Services, File 34, SciSearch, Dialog accession no. 11331456, Brosnan MP et al, "Investigation of the mechanisms of irreversible thermo-inactivation of bacillus-stearothermophilus alpha-amylase". European journal of biochemistry, 1992, V203, N1-2 (Jan 15), p 225-231 --	1
X,P	WO, A1, 9402597 (NOVO NORDISK A/S), 3 February 1994 (03.02.94), see tables 1-5 and claims ----- --	1-8,12-34

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
 Information on patent family members

28/05/94

International application No.

PCT/US 94/01553

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